

VirtueMart User Manual

Sören Eberhardt-Biermann

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Preamble



The content of this document is related to VirtueMart.

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The Software 'VirtueMart' is intended for use in Joomla! or Mambo (version 4.5.x, 4.6.x).

(Joomla! and Mambo is free Software, licensed under GNU/GPL; Joomla! is available from www.joomla.org [<http://www.joomla.org>])

Chapter 1. Introduction

1.1. What is VirtueMart?

1.1.1. About

VirtueMart is a Shopping Cart Application for selling goods over the internet. It's a Component (= *plugin*) for a Content Management System called Joomla! (and Mambo) and can't be used without Joomla!. It installs fairly easy using the automatic Component and Module Installer. It's intended for use in small / mid-sized Online Businesses / Online-Shops. So every user who wants to build up a Online Store can use this Component for selling something to Customers.

1.1.2. Features

- manage an unlimited Number of Products and Categories,
- use it as a Shop or just as an Online-Catalog (you can even turn off Price Display)
- sell downloadable Products,
- powerful Web-Administration Interface
- Product Import & Export using CSV Files
- add Images and Files (like Spec Sheets and Flyers) to a Product,
- add Attributes (like Size or Color) to your Products,
- manage your Customers in Shopper Groups,
- assign more than one Price to a Product: each Shopper Group has its own!
- display Prices either including or excluding tax (manageable for each Shopper Group)
- Shop Statistics / Control Panel with a Summary of new Customers, new Orders....
- manage the Stock Level for Products and Items
- notify Shoppers when a Product is back in Stock
- use Zone based Tax Calculation (city/state & country/region) OR
- Store Owner based Tax Calculation (e.g. in european countries)
- manage your own Shipping Carriers and Rates
- use InterShipper, UPS, USPS or Canada Post Shipping Rate API.
- complete Order Management with Order History, Customer Notification and Order Edit Functionality
- basic Reporting Feature: sold Items, monthly&yearly Revenue
- manage Order Statuses

- Shoppers can add their own Shipping Addresses
- let your Customers easily search for Products through a Search Form
- feature specific products by setting them on special
- let your shoppers know when a product is available again
- Shoppers can see, in what time a product will usually ship, on product-details page (with nice images!)
- Shoppers can manage their User Accounts (registration required)
- Shopper can view all their Orders (and Order Details)
- Order Confirmation Mail (customizable!) is sent to Shopper and Store Owner
- manage different Currencies, Countries & States
- use safe SSL encryption (128-bit)
- capable of live Credit Card Processing
- use payment gateways like authorize.net® [<http://www.authorize.net>], eWay, Worldpay, PayMate and NoChex....
- use PayPal [<http://www.paypal.com>] or the 2Checkout [???] IPN gateway,
- extend your Shop with other Payment & Shipping Modules or just write your own!
- ... many more! Just browse to virtuemart.net [<http://virtuemart.net>] for more Features & Extensions

1.2. What does it not do?

VirtueMart is a simple Online-Shop application. But it is surely no "out-of-the-box" killer application for professional companies. It's not tested in 100% secure environments. It's not meant to be 100% performant.

You will need some time to customize this application to fit your needs.

Be prepared to be confronted with bugs, which have currently not been found yet. VirtueMart has an active community and a forum where problems and questions can be discussed. (<http://virtuemart.net> [<http://VirtueMart.net>])

1.3. Screenshots

Frontend Screenshots (using the Template solarflare_ii)

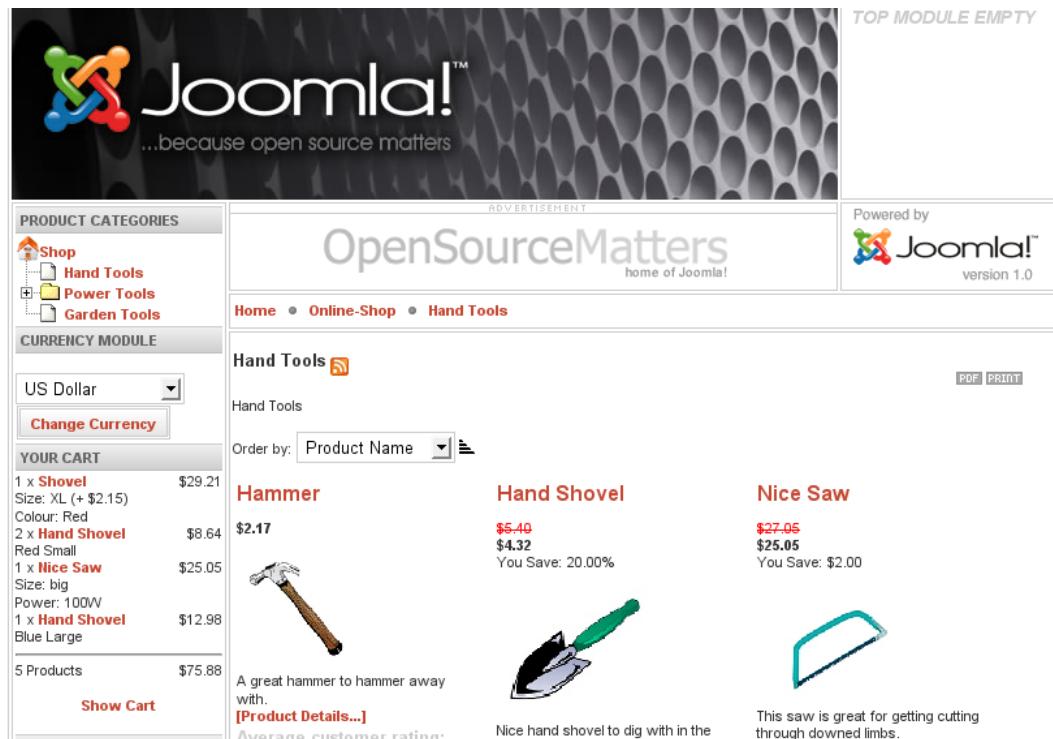


Figure 1.1. Frontend: Category Overview Page

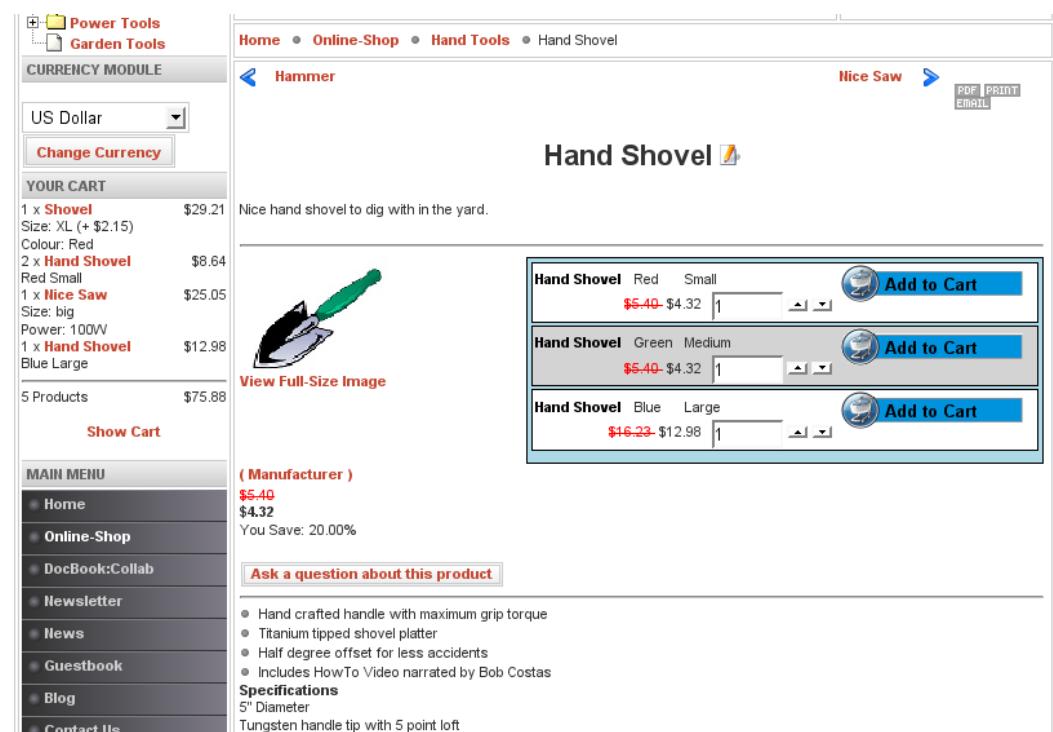


Figure 1.2. Frontend: Product Details Page with Review Feature

Administrator Screenshots

Figure 1.3. Administration: Homepage / Summary / Statistics

Figure 1.4. Administration: Product List

Chapter 2. Installation

2.1. Joomla! / Mambo Installation

Joomla! and Mambo must be installed prior to the Installation of VirtueMart, because VirtueMart needs a CMS as runtime environment.

The Joomla! / Mambo Installation is not part of this Manual, because it is subject to change and would have to cover a series of Tutorials for all different types of Joomla! and/or Mambo.

You can find further information about the Installation in the

- Joomla! 1.5 Installation Manual [<http://help.joomla.org/content/category/48/268/302/>]
- Joomla! 1.0 Installation Guide [<http://help.joomla.org/content/category/15/99/132/>]
- Mambo Knowledgebase: Installation and Configuration [<http://docs.mambo-foundation.org/en/?CategoryID=4>]

2.2. VirtueMart Installation

2.2.1. Requirements

2.2.1.1. Server Requirements

VirtueMart has the following System Requirements:

- Apache 1.3.19 or above - <http://www.apache.org>, recommended: Apache 2.2.x
- PHP 4.2.x or above - <http://www.php.net>, recommended: PHP 5.2.x
- MySQL 3.23.x or above - <http://www.mysql.com>, recommended: MySQL 5.0.x
- Joomla! 1.0.x or Mambo (>= 4.6.2), recommended: Joomla! 1.0.x

You must ensure that you have MySQL-, XML- and Zlib-Support built into your PHP. Support for **https** (openSSL) and **cURL** is recommended!

Important

The MySQL user, you access the database with in production use, must be able to create *temporary tables*.

2.2.1.2. Client Requirements

VirtueMart can be used with most major browsers including: Internet Explorer (version 5.5+), Firefox, Opera 9+, Safari and Konqueror. Javascript doesn't need to be enabled when shopping and checking out. The administration section requires Javascript to be enabled.

The browser needs to be capable of accepting Cookies and Cookies must be enabled.

2.2.2. Installation and Upgrade

New Installation

When having met all the requirements and when you are running Joomla! or Mambo you have two choices:

1. The automatic installation with Joomla's / Mambo's Element (Component-, Module-, Mambot-) Installer.
2. The manual installation.

Some users can't use the automatic Installer because of the PHP setting 'safe_mode' being set to 'On'.

In case you're running into trouble with the automatic Installer try the manual installation instead.

Upgrade from mambo-phpShop

You want to upgrade to VirtueMart from mambo-phpShop? That is easy.

All you need to do is install VirtueMart! It will automatically convert your installation of mambo-phpShop, rename the tables and copy all customer information into its own table #__vm_user_info.

So just follow the instructions for the automatic installation (or if you have difficulties with it: the manual installation).

Note

It is recommended to uninstall the old mambo-phpShop **modules** after you have installed the VirtueMart component and then install the new VirtueMart modules.

Caution

It is absolutely necessary to **make a backup of your whole site** before you upgrade your shop! An upgrade failure can always happen! So please: BACKUP, BACKUP, BACKUP!

Upgrade from VirtueMart 1.0.0-1.0.5

We have fixed a lot of bugs! An upgrade is highly recommended. Just get the "Patch Package" for your current VirtueMart version and overwrite your existing files with the ones from that package.

There are two small changes to the database, so you must run the following SQL queries on your database to update it.

Just open phpMyAdmin and run those queries:

```
#####
# SQL update script for upgrading
# from VirtueMart 1.0.x to VirtueMart 1.0.5
#
#####

ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_product_mf_xref` CHANGE `product_id` `product_id` INT( 11 ) NULL

ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_orders` ADD `order_tax_details` TEXT NOT NULL AFTER `order_tax`

# Allow Shopper group discounts up to 100.00%
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_shopper_group`
    CHANGE `shopper_group_discount` `shopper_group_discount` DECIMAL( 5, 2 ) NOT NULL
# Allow bigger discounts than 999.99
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_product_discount`
    CHANGE `amount` `amount` DECIMAL( 12, 2 ) NOT NULL DEFAULT '0.00';
# Allow prices up to 9 999 999 999.99
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_product_price`
```

```
    CHANGE `product_price` `product_price` DECIMAL( 12, 5 ) NULL DEFAULT NULL
# Adjust order item price
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_order_item`
    CHANGE `product_item_price` `product_item_price` DECIMAL( 15, 5 ) NULL DE
# Adjust order item final price
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_order_item`
    CHANGE `product_final_price` `product_final_price` DECIMAL( 12, 2 ) NOT N
# Adjust order total, allowing totals up to 9 999 999 999 999.99
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_orders`
    CHANGE `order_total` `order_total` DECIMAL( 15, 5 ) NULL DEFAULT NULL ;
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_orders`
    CHANGE `order_subtotal` `order_subtotal` DECIMAL( 15, 5 ) NULL DEFAULT NU

# Allow larger coupon amounts
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_orders`
    CHANGE `coupon_discount` `coupon_discount` DECIMAL( 12, 2 ) NOT NULL DEF
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_coupons`
    CHANGE `coupon_value` `coupon_value` DECIMAL( 12, 2 ) NOT NULL DEFAULT '0

# Allow larger payment discounts
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_orders`
    CHANGE `order_discount` `order_discount` DECIMAL( 12, 2 ) NOT NULL DEF
ALTER TABLE `jos_vm_payment_method`
    CHANGE `payment_method_discount` `payment_method_discount` DECIMAL( 12, 2

UPDATE `jos_components` SET `params` = 'RELEASE=1.0.13a\nDEV_STATUS=stable'
    WHERE `name` = 'virtuemart_version';

If you have another database prefix than "jos_" you must change the "jos_" to your prefix (mostly 'mos_' then).

The queries can be found in the file /sql/UPDATE-SCRIPT_VirtueMart_1.0.x-
to-VirtueMart_1.0.3.sql and /sql/UPDATE-SCRIPT_VirtueMart_1.0.3-to-
VirtueMart_1.0.5.sql.
```

2.2.3. Automatic Installation

VirtueMart is a complex script. It's not component-only, but also requires a Module. So it comes to you in a file called 'VirtueMart_x.x_COMPLETE_PACKAGE.zip'. This file contains various Elements for VirtueMart.

Important

This file is not installable! Its contents are, but they must be unpacked first.

Package Contents:

- 1 Component (com_virtuemart_x.x.tar.gz)
- 1 Main VirtueMart module (mod_virtuemart_x.x.tar.gz)
- 10 additional Modules
- 2 Mambots (1 Search, 1 Content Mambot)

1. Unpack the file 'VirtueMart_x.x_COMPLETE_PACKAGE.zip' to a local directory.
2. Log in into Mambo's Backend (using the URL 'http://joomla_url/administrator') to access the administrative interface.



Backend Login Screen

You need to have the privileges of an Administrator / Superadministrator to install Elements.

3. Click 'Installers' => 'Components' (or 'Components' => 'Install/Uninstall' when using an older Mambo version) in the Top Menu.

Currently Installed	Component Menu Link	Author	Version	Date	Author Email	Author URL
Banners		Joomla! Project	1.0.0	July 2004	admin@joomla.org	www.joomla.org
DOCMan	option=com_docman	DOCMan Project	1.3.0 RC 2	Aug 2005	admin@mambodocman.com	www.mambodocman.com
Mass Mail		Joomla! Project	4.5.1	February 2005	admin@joomla.org	www.joomla.org
News Feeds	option=com_newsfeeds	Joomla! Project	1.0.0	July 2004	admin@joomla.org	www.joomla.org
Polls	option=com_poll					
Simple Machines Forum Registration	option=com_smf_registration	Theodore Hildebrandt	3.19	20.09.2004	everythi@everything-science.com	www.everything-science.com

List of installed components

Caution

You must check if the directories listed above the component list are writable! If the directories are not writable, use ftp or JoomlaXplorer to change the permissions. For proper installation, the directories should be set to 777, after that you can change back to 755.

In the part 'Upload new component' select the file 'com_virtuemart_x.x.tar.gz'. This is the package file which contains all files for the VirtueMart Component, located on your computer (see Step 1).

Now click on 'Upload File & Install'. Since the tar.gz file is about 2 MB in size, you will have to wait a moment while the file is being uploaded to your server and unpacked.

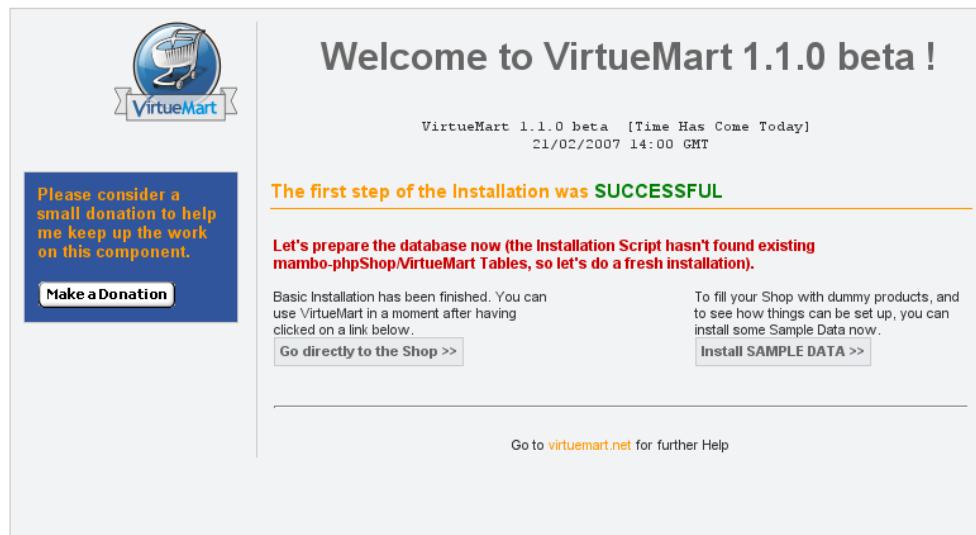
If the upload takes too long, try Step 4 or do the Manual Installation.

4. Alternative: You can unpack the contents of 'com_virtuemart_x.x.tar.gz' and upload those files to a remote directory using a ftp connection. Now specify the directory on the server from where you want to install the files and click 'Install'.

Note

Package Files are mostly a ZIP or tar.gz compressed file directory, which includes all information for the installation. The main file is an XML document which describes the installation process. In order to use this function for your installation, your web server must support the `zlib` extension. You can check this in the Admin Section Menu item, System > System Info > System Information.

5. The VirtueMart Component **should** be installed now. You'll see the Welcome Message Screen with some options for the next steps:



Installation Welcome Screen

You can now choose whether you want to install Sample Data (18 products, with attributes, in 5 categories) to see how things have to be set up.

Or you can '**go directly to the Shop >>**' without installing Sample Data.

Caution

This step **again** takes some time & the VirtueMart installer is running a lot of Database Queries now. So please be patient!

6. Click 'Installers' => 'Modules' (or 'Modules' -> 'Install/Uninstall' if you're using an older Mambo version) in the Top Menu to proceed to the installation of the VirtueMart Main module.

Choose the file 'mod_virtuemart_x.x.tar.gz' in the File Dialog and click 'Upload File & Install'.

Repeating this step you can install the additional modules for VirtueMart.

Publishing the Module:

Click 'Modules' -> 'Site Modules' in the Top Menu. Now browse through the list of installed modules and find the one with the name 'VirtueMart Module'. Select it (click on the name) and modify its settings/details. You can now choose where to put the Module on your Joomla! site. For more information about modules please refer to the Joomla! documentation (help.joomla.org [<http://help.joomla.org>]).

Important

Anywhere you place the module on your site, IT MUST BE PUBLISHED. If it is not, you can't access or browse your shop.

Additional modules

mod_product_categories	"Product Categories Module"
	It can display the product categories you have set up.
mod_productsroller	"Product Scroller Module"
	It can scroll certain products somewhere on your site using a marquee tag.
mod_virtuemart_allinone	"All-in-one module"
	Can display the latest, featured, top-ten or random products in one module using tabs.
mod_virtuemart_cart	"Mini-Cart Module"
	Displays the mini-cart for the customer with a link to the cart page.
mod_virtuemart_featuredprod	"Featured Products Module"
	Can display featured products in your store. Featured products are those which are "on special".
mod_virtuemart_latestprod	"Latest Products Module"
	Displays the newest products in your store.
mod_virtuemart_manufacturers	"Manufacturer Module"
	Shows all manufacturers from your store with a link to find all products of the selected manufacturer.
mod_virtuemart_randomprod	"Random Products Module"
	Does what the name says: displays random products from your store or a certain category.
mod_virtuemart_search	"Searchbox Module"
	Displays the VirtueMart searchbox (which lets the customer search for products).
mod_virtuemart_topten	"Top Ten Products Module"
	Displays the bestsellers from your store.

7. Recommended: Mambot Installation

Click on 'Installers' => 'Mambots' (or 'Mambots' -> 'Install/Uninstall' when using an older Mambo version) in the Top Menu.

SearchBot: Performs a search on the product table and delivers search results for Joomla's / Mambo's site search.

Select the file 'virtuemart.searchbot_x.x.tar.gz' and click 'Upload File & Install'.

Mambot ProductSnapshot: Displays product figure/price/add-to-cart link in content items.

Select the file 'mosproductsnap_x.x.tar.gz' and click 'Upload File & Install'.

Publishing the Mambots:

Mambots need to be published before they do ANYTHING. Click on 'Mambots' -> 'Site Mambots' in the Top Menu. Now browse through the list of installed Mambots and find 'virtuemart.searchbot' and 'mosproductsnap'. Select one (click on the name) and modify its settings/details. Remember to publish it. For more information about Mambots please refer to the Joomla! documentation (<http://help.joomla.org>).

You're now done with the Installation of VirtueMart and its elements.

2.2.4. Manual Installation

The installation has failed? You have safe_mode = On ?

You don't need to pull out your hair! You can still use the manual installation.

Manual Installation is a little bit harder than the automatic installation. It will need some file copying.

1. Download the Manual Installation Package. This is just another Package Form of VirtueMart.
2. Unpack the archive file `VirtueMart_x.x_Manual-Installation-Package.tar.gz` you have downloaded in Step 1 to a local directory using Winzip or Winrar.

You should now see at least four directories. The directory structure in those directories is the same as in your Joomla! / Mambo site:

```
/administrator  
/components  
/mambots  
/modules
```

3. Open up an FTP Connection to your site (you should use an FTP Program like SmartFTP...) and upload the directories to the root of your Joomla! site.

```
/site-root/administrator  
/site-root/components  
/site-root/mambots  
/site-root/modules
```

4. Login in to the Backend (Administration) of your site (http://www.your_site.com/administrator/).

5. When having logged in, you see this URL in the address bar:

`http://www.your_site.com/administrator/index2.php`

6. Now just add "`?option=com_virtuemart`" after `index2.php`, so it looks like this in your browser's address bar:

`http://www.your_site.com/administrator/index2.php?`

`option=com_virtuemart`

and submit (press Enter).

7. You should now see the "Installation was successful..." Screen. There you can click on "**GO TO THE SHOP >>**" or "**INSTALL SAMPLE DATA >>**" (when you want to have some sample Products and Categories in your Shop).
8. That's it.

9. To install the Modules and Mambots for VirtueMart, follow the instructions of the Automatic Installation, Steps 6 and 7. If this doesn't help you, because NO automatic installations are possible, you can manually upload the files (you have probably already done this in step 3).

Modules and Mambots require an entry in the table **jos_mambots / jos_modules**.

You can add these entries by uploading an SQL file (using phpMyAdmin) that contains all necessary queries:

```
/administrator/components/com_virtuemart/sql/  
virtuemart_modules.installation.sql
```

Now you should have installed VirtueMart correctly.

2.2.5. Installation FAQ

2.2.5.1 The Installer tells me "ERROR: Could not find an XML setup file in the package". What's wrong?

Mostly this problem arises because you have not unpacked the file `VirtueMart_x.x_COMPLETE_PACKAGE.zip` before and tried uploading / installing this file.

2.2.5.1 The Installer tells me "Another component is already using the directory `com_virtuemart`"

Please delete the directories `/site_root/components/com_virtuemart` and `/site_root/administrator/components/com_virtuemart`. If you can't delete the directories using ftp, try the file manager for Joomla!, eXtplorer [<http://extplorer.sourceforge.net>], instead.

2.2.5.1 When using the automatic installation nothing happens after clicking on "Upload & Install" or the installer tells me "Failed to move to /media directory" What's the cause?

VirtueMart is a big component, its installer file archive has a size of more than 2 MB. When uploading this file to your server you can wait a long time until the file is completely transferred to your server. You can use the Remote Installer for VirtueMart instead! (Remote Installer for VirtueMart) [http://joomlancode.org/gf/project/virtuemart/frs/?action=FrSReleaseBrowse&frs_package_id=192]

2.2.5.1 What are those `tar.gz` files, aren't those for Unix/Linux systems only?

`tar.gz` Archives come from the Unix World, but they can be used on Windows and Mac systems as well. On Windows you can unpack them using Winzip or Winrar. Gzip has a much much better compression than Zip, that's one reason why most Open Source projects use it for their distributions.

2.2.5.1 On an upgrade from mambo-phpShop, the VirtueMart installer won't recognise my existing tables! What to do now?

Sometimes the tables beginning with jos_pshop_ or mos_pshop_ are not found. Before you click on "Install sample data" or "Go directly to the shop" you can just type in this URL in the address bar of your browser:

```
index2.php?option=com_virtuemart&install_type=update12p13
```

After that the upgrade procedure begins!

2.2.5. IAfter the installation I try to access VirtueMart, but it just prints out an error like "store is not a valid VirtueMart module....". What's wrong?

The installation is corrupt. The registered functions and core modules, which are used by VirtueMart to check the access permissions are missing. You need to make sure that the tables "jos_vm_functions" and "jos_vm_modules" have been created in your database and contain records. If they are missing, you can add those tables manually by using the SQL installer file /sql/virtuemart.installation.joomla.sql. Search for those tables, copy the SQL code and paste it into the textarea in phpMyAdmin's SQL execution screen.

2.2.5. IAfter having installed the component, I add a Main Menu Link to the VirtueMart component. But clicking on that link only displays the text "Welcome to Washupito's...." What's wrong?

VirtueMart is no component-only script. It's programmed to be used together with the corresponding VirtueMart Main Module. VirtueMart will not operate properly without the VirtueMart Main Module.

Chapter 3. First Steps

Do you have installed the VirtueMart Main Module?

If not, do so now. Don't forget to publish it somewhere on your site. This module is meant to display all categories and to control the component.

Note

All following procedures mean that you use the Main Menu of the VirtueMart Administration!

Tip

VirtueMart provides FULL ACCESS to its Administration Panel from the Frontend! That means that you don't have to login at the backend of your site to make all your changes, but just click on "Administration" in the VirtueMart Main Module. (requires *admin* or *storeadmin* permissions)

1. Go to "Store" -> "Edit Store" and make all important settings that fit to your details. Don't forget to set currency, currency display style and your email address!
2. Go to "Tax" -> "Add tax rate" and add a tax rate according to the local settings of your Shop (important for european shops!).
3. Go to "Components" -> "VirtueMart" -> "Admin" -> Configuration and change all details to fit your needs.
4. Go to "Components" -> "VirtueMart" -> "Products" -> "Add category" and set up your categories and category structure. Be sure that all of them are published.
5. Go to "Components" -> "VirtueMart" -> "Products" -> "Add Product" and add as many products as you need repeating this step.

3.1. Joomla! Global Configuration

[VirtueMart makes use of the global Configuration values which can be set in the Global Configuration for your Joomla!/Mambo site.]

Allow User Registration

YES

An user/customer must be registered to your site before being able to checkout (even if the customer might not recognise it due to silent registration). VirtueMart provides an enhanced Registration Form where customers can leave their account and shipping data. When register using this form, they are automatically added to the Joomla! user list.

Use New Account Activation

NO

If you keep this feature disabled, new customers have a streamlined checkout process and don't have to activate their new account by checking their email and restart their checkout!

Mail Configuration

varies

VirtueMart sends Emails using the global Mail Configuration. So be sure to modify the Values according to your Server.

Caution

If you don't change your Store Information and the Email Address, VirtueMart sends Order Confirmation Emails to *demo_order@virtuemart.net*.

Localization / Language

Whatever language you set in the Global Configuration: VirtueMart tries to pick it from its own language directory:

```
/administrator/components/com_virtuemart/  
languages
```

If the selected language isn't found, the english language file is loaded by default - so never delete it.

Search Engine Friendly URLs

Recommended: Off

VirtueMart is fully SEF compatible, but please note that some the SEF links for VirtueMart, which are generated by Joomla's / Mambo's SEF module or others, sometimes lead to "URL redirection limit exceeded..." or internal server errors.

Chapter 4. Administrator Tutorial

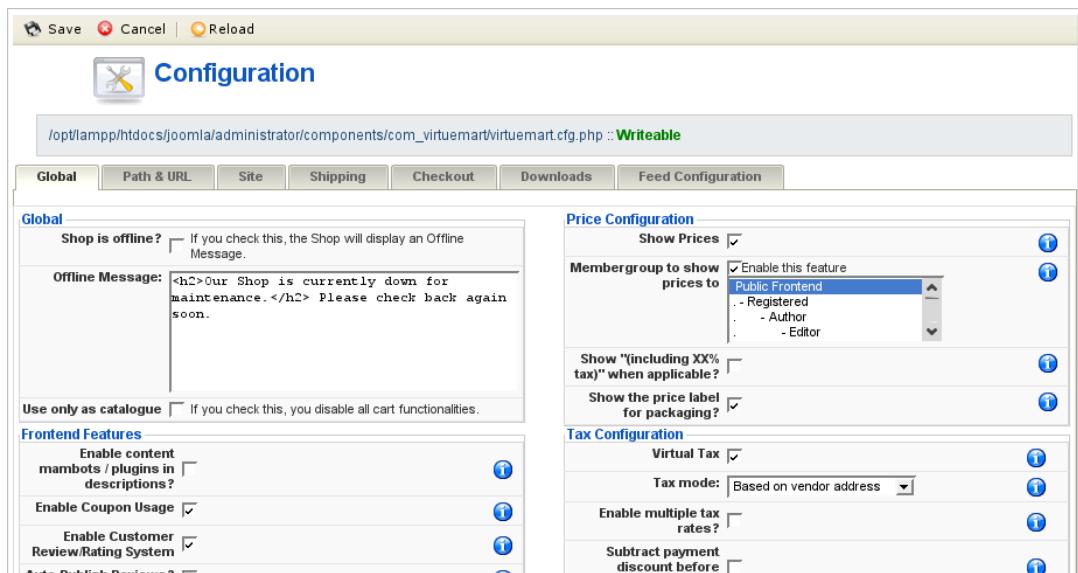
This tutorial will walk you through the setup of your site, ongoing management, and advanced administration accessed via the VirtueMart administrative interface.

It assumes that you have already installed and configured your site (VirtueMart 1.1 with Joomla! 1.0.13).

VirtueMart allows you to select "Simple Layout" and "Extended Layout". The simple layout is the standard layout and provides a basic cross-browser-safe layout. The extended layout instead uses the fabulous ExtJS library for creating a nested layout that allows better presentation of the administrative functions of VirtueMart. So it opens items for editing in a new tab inside the main panel. It should work fine on Internet Explorer 6+, Firefox 2+, Opera 9+ and Safari 2+.

4.1. Shop Configuration

The Configuration Panel is the most important part of VirtueMart. It can be accessed via "Admin" # "Configuration".



The screenshot shows the VirtueMart Configuration Panel. The Global tab is selected. The Global section contains options for 'Shop is offline?' (checkbox), 'Offline Message' (text area with placeholder text: "Our Shop is currently down for maintenance. Please check back again soon."), and 'Use only as catalogue' (checkbox). The Frontend Features section contains options for 'Enable content mambots / plugins in descriptions?' (checkbox), 'Enable Coupon Usage' (checkbox), and 'Enable Customer Review/Rating System' (checkbox). The Price Configuration section contains options for 'Show Prices' (checkbox), 'Membergroup to show prices to' (dropdown menu with 'Public Frontend' selected), 'Show "(including XX% tax)" when applicable?' (checkbox), and 'Show the price label for packaging?' (checkbox). The Tax Configuration section contains options for 'Virtual Tax' (checkbox), 'Tax mode' (dropdown menu with 'Based on vendor address' selected), 'Enable multiple tax rates?' (checkbox), and 'Subtract payment discount before' (checkbox).

Figure 4.1. The Configuration Form

Note that the Configuration Panel can be accessed by Users with Permissions "admin" only (by default).

You can access the different parts of the Panel by clicking on the Tab Headings.

4.1.1. Global

Global

Shop is offline?

Here you can switch the shop from Online to Offline mode. In offline mode, the offline message is displayed instead of the product pages. This means the whole shop section isn't usable for customers. Administrators won't see the shop too.

Offline Message

This message will be displayed to customers who try to access your store.

Use only as catalogue	Hides all "Add to Cart" buttons.
Show Prices	When enabled, product prices are displayed. (useful when using "catalog-only" functionality. Note that you can't hide prices from unregistered users to show prices only to registered users. Either ON or OFF!
Membergroup to show prices to	default:"Public Frontend"
	Here you can decide which membergroups of your site are allowed to see product prices.
Show "(including XX% tax)" when applicable?	When checked, users will see the text "(including xx% tax)" when prices are shown incl. tax (which depends on shopper group settings!).
Show the price label for packaging?	Use "price per packaging" label?
Show Prices including tax?	Sets the flag whether the shoppers sees prices including tax or excluding tax. When enabled prices are displayed like "X.XX (including XX% Tax)"
Enable content mambots/plugins in descriptions?	If enabled, you can use your mambots and plugins for dynamic content in the product or category descriptions.
Enable Coupon Usage	If you enable the Coupon Usage, you allow customers to fill in Coupon Numbers to gain discounts on their purchase.
Customer Review/Rating System	If enabled, you allow customers to rate products and write reviews about them. So customers can write down their experiences with the product for other customers.
Auto-Publish Reviews?	If enabled, customer reviews are instantly shown after being submitted. Maybe not a good idea, because you want to check the product reviews before.
Comment Minimum Length	This is the amount of characters a customer must write at least before a review can be submitted.
Comment Maximum Length	This is the maximum amount of characters a customer can write before a review can be submitted.
Enable Affiliate Program?	This enables the affiliate tracking in the shop-frontend. Enable if you have added affiliates in the backend.
Caution	
	The Affiliate Program doesn't fully work. It must be completed in future versions.
Virtual Tax	This determines whether items with zero weight are taxed or not (only applies in Ship-To-Address based Tax Mode).
Tax mode	This determines which tax rate is taken for calculating taxes. It can be either the tax rate of the customer's shipping address location, the tax rate of the store/vendor location or - in EU Mode - the tax rate of the country, the store is located in, regardless where the goods are shipped to.
Enable multiple tax rates?	Check this, if you have products with different tax rates (e.g. 7% for books and food, 16% for other stuff).

Discount before tax/shipping?	Sets the flag whether to subtract the Discount for the selected payment BEFORE (checked) or AFTER tax and shipping.
User Registration Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Normal Account Creation: This type of registration asks each customer for a username and password and all other published registration details.Silent Account Creation: In this mode, users don't need to fill in a username and password for a new account. Instead the email address is used for the new account and a random password is generated. The registration details are mailed to the customer.Optional Account Creation: The customer can select if a persistant account is created or not. If the customers chooses to create an account, he is asked for an username and password. If he chooses not to create an account, a hidden account is created - so the customer can be silently logged in and check out.No Account Creation possible In this mode the customer can checkout without being able to create an account for returning later on. Each time a dummy user account is created to keep the data structure intact.
Show the "Remember me" checkbox on login?	The "Remember me" feature allows to set a cookie in the customer's browser, so the customer doesn't need to login each time he returns to the site. This is done by default. But such cookies can be a security risk - especially when people are sharing a PC in an Internet Cafe. So check this checkbox to allow customers *not* to store a user cookie.
Customers can select a state/region?	When enabled, your customers are presented a drop-down list with states where they can select one.
Must agree to Terms of Service?	Check if you want a shopper to agree to your Terms of Service before registering to the shop.
Agree to T.o.S. on EVERY ORDER?	Check if you want a shopper to agree to your terms of service on EVERY ORDER (before placing the order).
Show information about "Return Policy" on the order confirmation page?	Store owners are required by law to inform their customers about return and order cancellation policies in most european countries. So this should be enabled in most cases.
Legal information text (short version)	This text instructs your customers in short about your return and order cancellation policy. It is shown on the last page of checkout, just above the "Confirm Order" button.
Long version of the return policy (link to a content item)	This is the long and detailed version of your returns policy. This text is linked in the short version and appended to each order confirmation email.
Check Stock?	Sets whether to check the stock level when a user adds an item to the shopping cart. If set, this will not allow user to add more items to the cart than are available in stock.

Show Products that are out of Stock?	Let's you decide whether Products that are out of Stock are displayed or hidden (only available when Check Stock is enabled).
Enable the Cookie Check?	If enabled, VirtueMart checks whether the browser of the customer accepts cookies or not. This is user-friendly, but it can have negative consequences on the Search-Engine-Friendliness of your shop.
Currency Converter Module	This allows you to select a certain currency converter module. Such modules fetch exchange rates from a server and convert one currency into another.
Order-mail format:	This determines how your order confirmation emails are set up: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• as a simple text email• or as a html email with images.
DEBUG ?	Turns on the debug output. This causes the DEBUGPAGE to be displayed at the bottom of each VirtueMart page. Very helpful during shop development since it shows the carts contents, form field values, etc.

4.1.2. Security

SECUREURL	Example: https://www.mydomain.com The secure URL to your site. (https - with trailing slash at the end!)
Caution	Be careful what you fill in here - if the address doesn't exist, customers would be redirected to a non-existing location and receive a 404 error!
Shop Areas which must use https	Some of the areas of your shop can be forced to use the SECUREURL connection. Here you can choose the modules which must use this SECUREURL. By default this is: "account" (Account Maintenance) and "checkout" (the complete Checkout).
Generally prevent secure connections?	When checked, the shopper is redirected to the normal URL when not browsing in those shop areas, which are forced to use the SECUREURL .
Encryption Key	The secret key for encrypting payment account data like credit card numbers and storing them encrypted in the database.
Store Credit Card Information?	Allows to completely disable the storage of Credit Card data.
Allow Frontend-Administration...	...for non-Backend Users?
Table Prefix for VirtueMart Tables	With this setting you can enable the Frontend Administration for users who are storeadmins, but can't access the Mambo Backend (e.g. Registered / Editor).
Homepage	Example: shop.index

ERRORPAGE	This is the page which will be loaded in the frontend by default. Default: shop.error
Proxy Server URL	This is the default page for displaying VirtueMart Error Messages.
Proxy Port	The URL of the Proxy Server you need to pass from the server for connections into the Internet.
Proxy Auth Username	The Port of the Proxy Server
Proxy Auth Password	Only if needed: the username for authentication at the proxy server
	Only if needed: the matching password for authentication at the proxy server

4.1.3. Site (Display & Layout)

VirtueMart makes use of the Joomla/Mambo Templates' CSS. It uses the Standard-CSS Classes defined for Joomla! like `sectiontableheader`, `sectiontableentry1`, `sectiontableentry2` and so on.

Display

PDF - Button	Show or Hide the PDF - Button in the Shop Frontend.
Show the "Recommend to a friend" button?	Show or Hide the link to the form for recommending a product to a friend in the Shop Frontend.
Show the "Print View" link?	Show or Hide the link for the print view page in the Shop Frontend.
Show Page Navigation at the Top of the Product Listing?	default: checked Switches On or Off the Display of Page Navigation at the Top of the Product Listings in the Frontend.
Default Product Sort Order	Here you can select by which criteria products are ordered in the product lists.
Available "Sort-by" fields	Here you can select the criteria which is available for the customer to reorder the product list.
Show the Number of Products?	default: checked Switches On or Off the Display of Products in a Category right behind the Category Name like "Power Tools (3)".
"no image" image	default: /ps_image/noimage.gif This image will be shown when no product image is available.
Show footer "powered by..." ?	Displays a <i>powered-by-VirtueMart</i> footer image. Give credits back to the author!

Design

Global Shop Theme	Here you can select which theme is used to style the shop. The configuration link takes you to the theme configuration screen.
-------------------	--

Default number of products in a row

This defines the number of products in a row. Example: If you set it to 4, the **default** category template will display 4 products per row.

Note

You can change the Category's Number of products per row for each category in its category form!

Category Template

default: browse_1

This defines the category template for displaying products in a category *when no special template is set*. You can create new templates by customizing existing template files (which reside in the directory `COMPONENTPATH/html/templates/` and begin with `browse_`).

Note

You can change the Category Template for each category in its category form!

FLYPAGE

default: shop.flypage

This is the page used for displaying product details when no special flypage is set.

Note

You can change the Flypage for each category in its category form!

Dynamic Thumbnail Resizing?

If checked, you enable dynamic Image Resizing. This means that all Thumbnail Images are resized to fit the Sizes you provide below, using PHP's **GD2** functions.

Tip

You can check if you have GD2 support by browsing to "System" -> "System Info" -> "PHP Info" -> gd.

The Thumbnail Image quality is much better than Images which were "resized" by the browser. The newly generated Images are put into the directory `/shop_image/product/resized`. If the Image has already been resized, this copy will be sent to the browser, so no image is resized again and again.

Thumbnail Image Width

The target **width** of the resized Thumbnail Image.

Thumbnail Image Height

The target **height** of the resized Thumbnail Image.

4.1.4. Shipping

In the Shipping section you can select one or more of the provided Shipping Modules.

Tip

You can configure Online Services (like UPS® or Intershipper®) in "Store" # "List Shipping Modules" # Service Name. Other Shipping methods like Standard Shipping or Zone Shipping

must be configured through their own administrative interface: "Shipping" # Shipping Rates / Shippers or "Zone Shipping" # "Zone List". The Free Shipping module can be configured by amount only in the *Store Form*.

The selected Shipping Module will list all available Shipping Rates on Checkout.

Note

If you want *no Shipping Rate Selection*, you must select "Disable Shipping method selection" AND a checkout process (next Tab) which doesn't include Shipping Method selection.

4.1.5. Checkout

Enable the Checkout Bar	default: Enabled
Checkout Steps	Check this, if you want the 'checkout-bar' to be displayed to the customer during checkout process (1 - 2 - 3 - 4 with graphics).

4.1.6. Downloads

Enable Downloads	Check to enable the Download Feature. Only If you want sell downloadable goods.
"Enable download" Status	value: can be some Order Status (<i>not cancelled</i> ;-)).
"Disable download" Order Status	Select the order status at which the customer is notified about the download via e-mail.
DOWNLOADROOT	Sets the order status at which the download is disabled for the customer.

Important

Must be a physical path, no URL.

Caution

For your own shop's security: If you can, please use a directory ANYWHERE OUTSIDE OF THE WEBROOT

Download Maximum	Sets the number of downloads which can be made with one Download-ID for one order.
Download Expire	Sets the time range in seconds in which the download is enabled for the customer. This range begins with the first download! When the time range has expired, the download-ID is disabled.

Tip

86400s=24h

Keep Product Stock Level on Purchase?

When enabled, the stock level for a downloadable product is not lowered although it was purchased by customers.

4.2. Getting Started

To access the configuration of VirtueMart, select "Components | VirtueMart" in the Joomla! Administration Interface.



Figure 4.2. Joomla! Administrator: Component Drop-Down List

If you see the VirtueMart "Welcome" page when accessing VirtueMart, click "Go Directly to Shop".

Navigating to the VirtueMart admin interface will bring up the "Store: Summary" page.

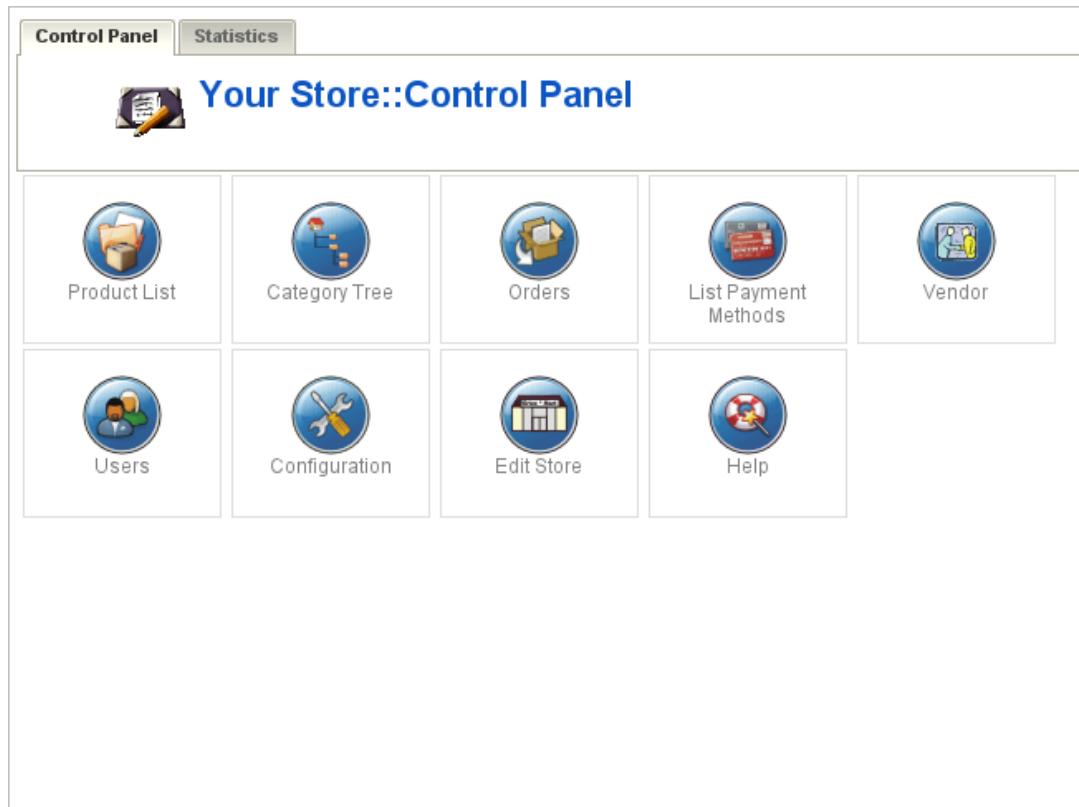


Figure 4.3. VirtueMart Control Panel

You may also access this page from within the VirtueMart interface under "Store | Summary"

4.3. Store Setup

To begin setting up your store, select "Store | Edit Store" from the VirtueMart admin interface.

Store Information

Store

Store Name: Washupito's Tiendita
 Store Company Name: Washupito's Tiendita
 URL: http://localhost/joomla
 Address 1: 100 Washupito Avenue, NW.
 Address 2:
 City: San Antonio
 Country: United States
 State/Province/Region: Texas
 Zip/Postal Code: 92630
 Phone: 555-555-1212

Contact Information

Last Name: Owner
 First Name: Demo
 Middle Name: Store
 Title: Mr.
 Phone 1: 555-555-1212
 Phone 2: 555-555-1212
 Fax: 555-555-1212
 Email: soeren_nb@yahoo.de

Store Information

Full Image: **WASHUPITO'S TIENDITA**
 Upload Image: Durchsuchen...

Currency Display Style

Currency: US Dollar
 Currency symbol: \$
 Decimals: 2

Figure 4.4. VirtueMart Administration: The Store Form

The Information from the Store Information Form is displayed in various Locations on the Shopping Site. This is your Store's primary Identity - essentially a special "Master" Vendor.

Store Information Form Fields

Store Name	Required
	The name of the Store.
Store Company Name	Required
	The name of your company.
URL	The Store's Internet Address.
Address 1	Address Line 1
Address 2	Address Line 2
City	The City where your Store is located.
State/Province/Region	The State / Region where your Store is located.
Country	The Country where your Store is located.
Zip/Postal Code	The ZIP of your Store's location.
Phone	Your Store's Phone Number
Last, First & Middle Name	The Name of your Contact Person.
Title	The title of the Contact Person.
Phone 1 & 2	Your contact's Phone number.
Fax	The Fax number for the Contact.
Email Address	Primary store contact email address
Full Image	Required
	Displays the currently configured store logo.
Upload Image	Optional
	Browse to your company logo. This will be uploaded when you click on the "Save" icon.
Minimum Purchase Order Value	This is the amount which is the minimum Order Value for Checkout.
Minimum Amount for Free Shipping	This is the amount, from which on Shipping is free.
Currency	The Store's global / default Currency
Currency symbol	This is the currency symbol which will be used when displaying prices.
Decimals	Number of decimals.
Decimal symbol	Can be somethin like . , or empty.

Thousands separator	
Positive format	Display Order / Style for positive numbers.
Negative format	Display Order / Style for negative numbers.
List of accepted currencies	This list defines all those currencies you accept when people are buying something in your store.

Note

All currencies selected here can be used at checkout! If you don't want that, just select your country's currency (=default).

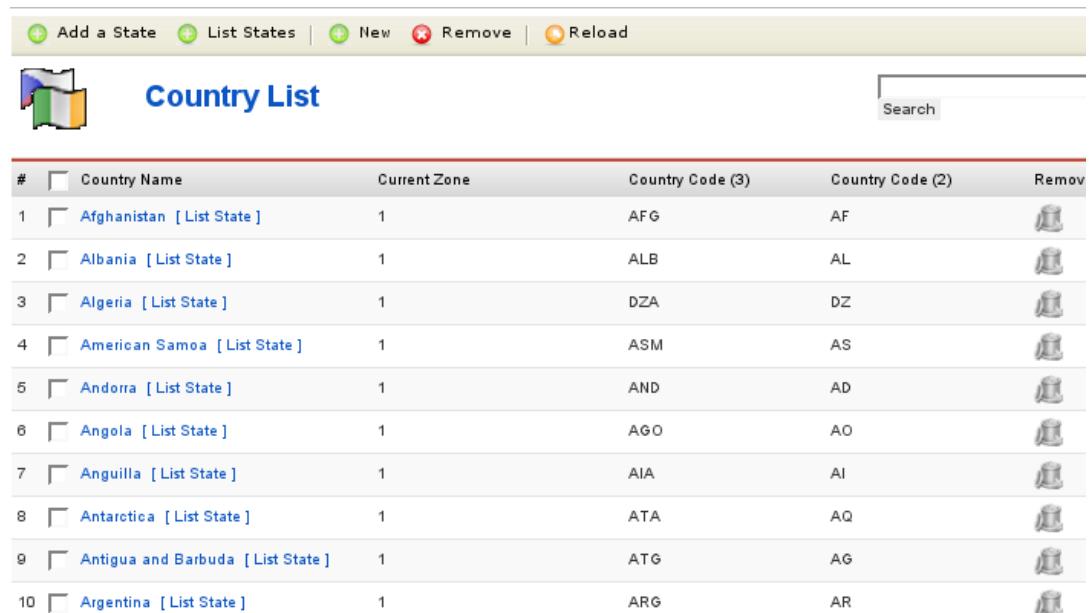
Description	This is your Store's Description which is shown on the page shop.index.
Terms of Service	This is the complete text for your Terms of Service that is displayed to the customer.

Click on the "Save" icon. Now you're ready to begin adding Categories, Products and Manufacturers.

4.4. Countries, Currencies, Core Modules & Functions

4.4.1. Managing Countries

Countries are managed in the country list, which can be accessed through "Admin" # "List Countries".



#	<input type="checkbox"/> Country Name	Current Zone	Country Code (3)	Country Code (2)	Remove
1	Afghanistan [List State]	1	AFG	AF	
2	Albania [List State]	1	ALB	AL	
3	Algeria [List State]	1	DZA	DZ	
4	American Samoa [List State]	1	ASM	AS	
5	Andorra [List State]	1	AND	AD	
6	Angola [List State]	1	AGO	AO	
7	Anguilla [List State]	1	AIA	AI	
8	Antarctica [List State]	1	ATA	AQ	
9	Antigua and Barbuda [List State]	1	ATG	AG	
10	Argentina [List State]	1	ARG	AR	

Figure 4.5. VirtueMart Administration: Country List

To add a new country, click "New" in the top of the list and fill out the fields in the country form.

Country Name:

Current Zone:

Country Code (2):

Country Code (3):

Figure 4.6. VirtueMart Administration: Country Form

Don't forget to save and the new country is added to the list.

You can modify existing countries. To do so, just click on the name of a country in that list and a form opens and you can modify the properties of this country. Again don't forget to save your changes.

To remove one or more countries from the list, either click on the "trash bin" icon in the last column of each row and confirm to remove the country or select countries and click on "Remove" in the toolbar.

4.4.2. Managing Currencies

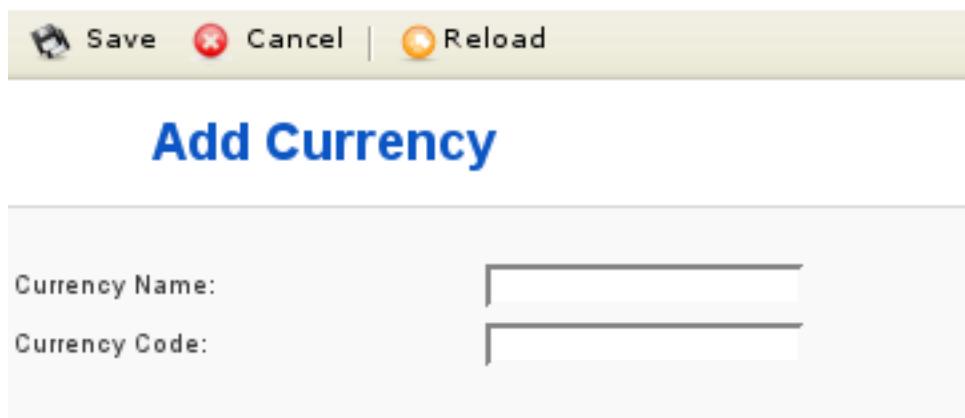
Currencies are managed in the currency list, which can be accessed through "Admin" # "List Currencies".

Currency List

#	Currency Name	Currency Code	Remove
1	Afghanistan Afghani	AFA	
2	Andorran Peseta	ADP	
3	AOK	AOK	
4	Argentinian Peso	ARP	
5	Aruban Florin	AWG	
6	Australian Dollar	AUD	
7	Bahamian Dollar	BSD	
8	Bahraini Dinar	BHD	
9	Bangladeshi Taka	BDT	
10	Barbados Dollar	BBD	

Figure 4.7. VirtueMart Administration: Currencies List

To add a new Currency, click "New" in the top of the list and fill out the fields in the Currency form.



The screenshot shows a VirtueMart administration interface for adding a new currency. At the top, there is a toolbar with three buttons: 'Save' (with a disk icon), 'Cancel' (with a red X icon), and 'Reload' (with a circular arrow icon). Below the toolbar, the title 'Add Currency' is displayed in a large, bold, blue font. The main content area is a white box containing two input fields. The first field is labeled 'Currency Name:' and the second is labeled 'Currency Code:'. Each label is followed by a text input box. The overall background is a light gray color.

Figure 4.8. VirtueMart Administration: Currency Form

Don't forget to save and the new currency is added to the list.

You can modify existing currencies. To do so, just click on the name of a currency in that list and a form opens and you can modify the properties of this currency. Again don't forget to save your changes.

To remove one or more currencies from the list, either click on the "trash bin" icon in the last column of each row and confirm to remove the currency or select multiple currencies using the checkboxes and click on "Remove" in the toolbar.

4.4.3. VirtueMart Core Modules

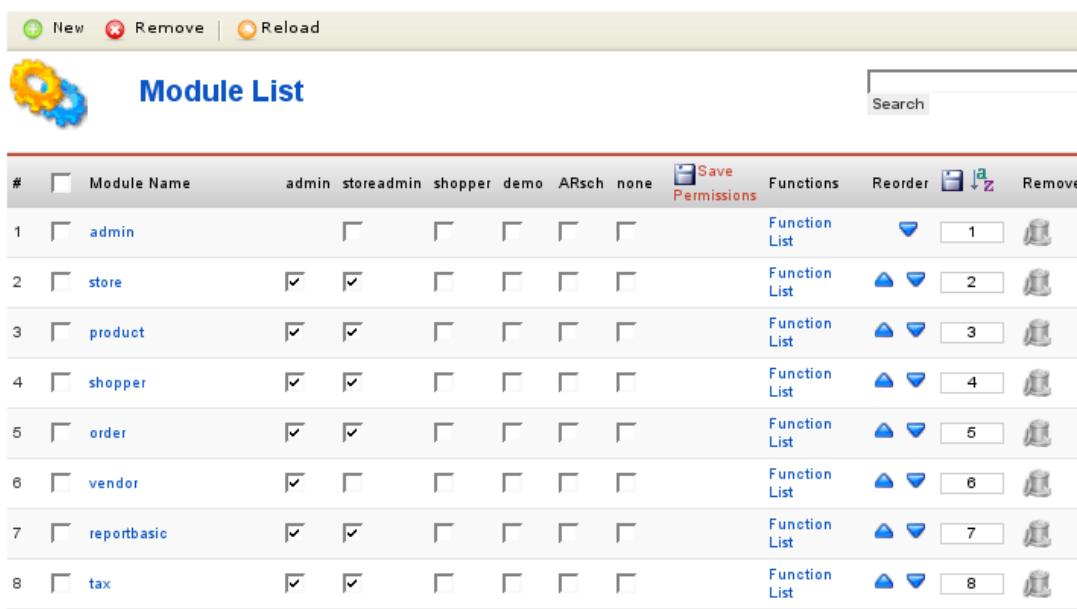
VirtueMart Core Modules have absolutely nothing to do with "Joomla! Module", which are sideblocks in your Joomla! site.

Core Modules build a part of your store and are used to manage the different sections and their access permissions.

Caution

You need to act carefully in this part of VirtueMart. Changing Core Modules and their permissions can result in locking out other users or even yourself from the store.

Core Modules are managed in the module list, which can be accessed through "Admin" # "List Modules".

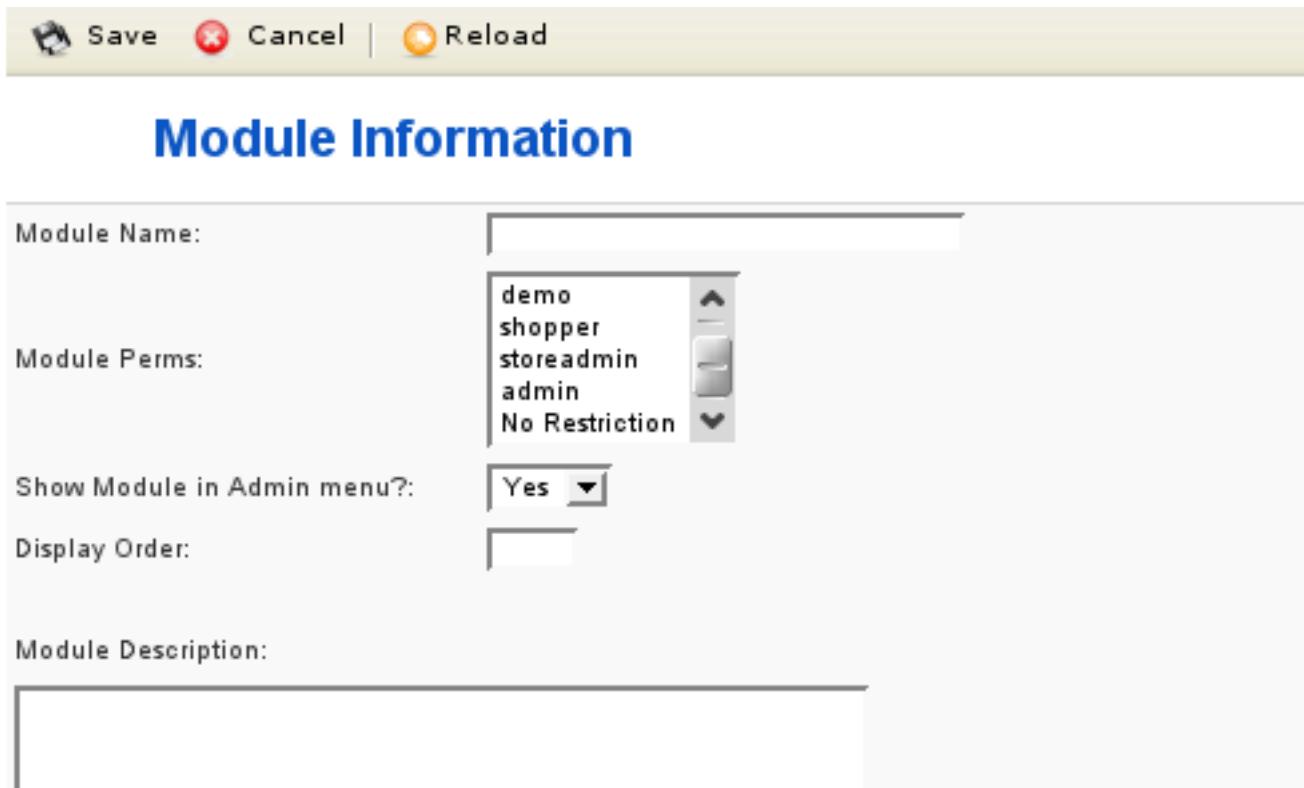


The screenshot shows the VirtueMart Module List. At the top, there are buttons for 'New' (green plus), 'Remove' (red minus), and 'Reload' (orange circle). Below the title 'Module List' is a search bar. The main area is a table with the following columns: #, Module Name, admin, storeadmin, shopper, demo, ARsch, none, Save Permissions, Functions, Reorder, and Remove. The 'Save Permissions' column contains a 'Function List' link and a dropdown menu for reordering. The 'Remove' column contains a trash bin icon. The table rows list eight modules: admin, store, product, shopper, order, vendor, reportbasic, and tax. Each row has a checkbox in the first column and a trash bin icon in the last column.

#	Module Name	admin	storeadmin	shopper	demo	ARsch	none	Save Permissions	Functions	Reorder	Remove
1	admin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List	 	1	
2	store	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List	 	2	
3	product	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List	 	3	
4	shopper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List	 	4	
5	order	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List	 	5	
6	vendor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List	 	6	
7	reportbasic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List	 	7	
8	tax	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List	 	8	

Figure 4.9. VirtueMart Administration: Module List

To add a new module, click "New" in the top of the list and fill out the fields in the module form.



The screenshot shows the VirtueMart Module Information form. At the top, there are buttons for 'Save' (green circle), 'Cancel' (red circle), and 'Reload' (orange circle). The main area contains the following fields:

- Module Name:** A text input field.
- Module Perms:** A dropdown menu containing: demo, shopper, storeadmin, admin, and No Restriction. It includes up and down arrow buttons for reordering.
- Show Module in Admin menu?:** A dropdown menu with 'Yes' selected.
- Display Order:** A text input field.
- Module Description:** A large text area.

Figure 4.10. VirtueMart Administration: Currency Form

Don't forget to save and the new module is added to the list.

You can modify existing modules. To do so, just click on the name of a module in that list and a form opens and you can modify the properties of this module. Again don't forget to save your changes.

To remove one or more modules from the list, either click on the "trash bin" icon in the last column of each row and confirm to remove the module or select modules and click on "Remove" in the toolbar.

4.4.4. VirtueMart Core Functions

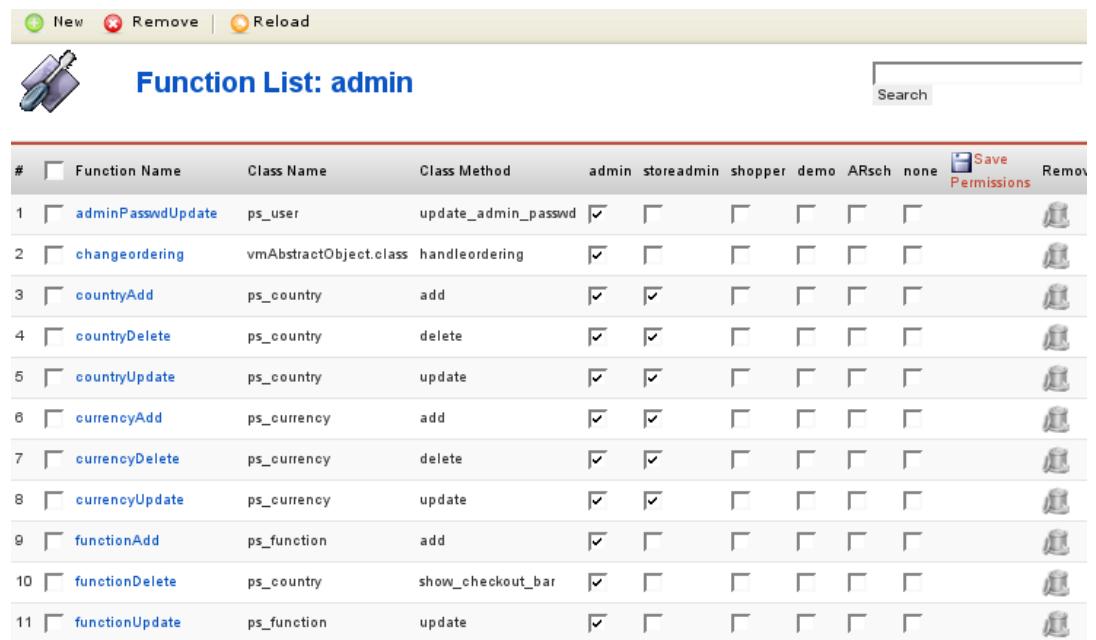
"Functions" are a core feature of VirtueMart and allow to control the access to all processes in VirtueMart. Functions are executed using the "func" parameter in the URL given the other URL parameters as function variables.

Caution

You need to act carefully in this part of VirtueMart. Changing Core Functions and their permissions can result in locking out other users or even yourself from the store.

Functions are always assigned to core modules. So at first you need to go to the module list ("Admin" # "List Modules") and then click on "Function List" in the row of the module you want to manage functions for.

If you have done this, you can see a list of all functions for that module.



#	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function Name	Class Name	Class Method	admin	storeadmin	shopper	demo	ARsch	none	Save Permissions	Remove
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	adminPasswdUpdate	ps_user	update_admin_passwd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	changeordering	vmAbstractObject.class	handleordering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	countryAdd	ps_country	add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	countryDelete	ps_country	delete	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	countryUpdate	ps_country	update	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	currencyAdd	ps_currency	add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	currencyDelete	ps_currency	delete	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	currencyUpdate	ps_currency	update	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	
9	<input type="checkbox"/>	functionAdd	ps_function	add	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	
10	<input type="checkbox"/>	functionDelete	ps_function	show_checkout_bar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	
11	<input type="checkbox"/>	functionUpdate	ps_function	update	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	

Figure 4.11. VirtueMart Administration: Function List

To add a new function, click "New" in the top of the list and fill out the fields in the function form.

Function Name:

Class Name:

Class Method:

Function Perms:

demo
shopper
storeadmin
admin
No Restriction

Function Description:

Figure 4.12. VirtueMart Administration: Function Form

Don't forget to save and the new function is added to the list.

You can modify existing functions. To do so, just click on the name of a function in that list and a form opens and you can modify the properties of this function. Again don't forget to save your changes.

To remove one or more functions from the list, either click on the "trash bin" icon in the last column of each row and confirm to remove the function or select functions and click on "Remove" in the toolbar.

4.5. Manufacturer Administration

Manufacturers are associated with products, providing web site, contact, and descriptive information. Each product that is created is associated with a Manufacturer.

For stores where manufacturer information is not necessarily relevant, a default manufacturer is created upon installation.

It is not necessary to create manufacturers prior to creating your catalog. Products can be re-associated to manufacturers after all the product records have been created. However, creating the manufacturers first can save a lot of extra work if you already know that you will be using this information.

4.5.1. Manufacturer Categories

Manufacturer Categories are used to group Manufacturers into different categories.

Adding Manufacturer Categories

VirtueMart creates the manufacturer category name "-default-" upon installation. It is not necessary to change this.

To create a new manufacturer category, select "Manufacturer | Add Manufacturer Category".

Manufacturer Category Form Fields:

Category Name	The name of the Manufacturer category.
Category Description	A description of the Manufacturer category (optional).

Click on the "Save" icon. You will be redirected to the "Manufacturer Category List" page, showing the "-default-" category, and the new category you just entered.

Editing Manufacturer Categories

To edit an existing manufacturer category, select "Manufacturer | List Manufacturer Categories" in the VirtueMart admin menu. This will return a list of existing manufacturer categories.

Click on the name of the manufacturer category you want to edit, make any necessary changes to the fields (listed above), and click on the "Save" icon.

You will be returned to the Manufacturer Category List.

Deleting Manufacturer Categories

Before deleting an existing manufacturer category, all manufacturers associated to that category must be removed through either deletion or re-association to a different manufacturer category. VirtueMart will not allow the deletion of a manufacturer category while manufacturers still exist for that manufacturer category. See below under "Manufacturers" for information on re-association and deletion of a manufacturer.

Once the manufacturers have been removed, select "Manufacturers | List Manufacturer Categories" from the VirtueMart admin menu. Click on the name of the manufacturer category you want to delete. In the Manufacturer Category Form, click on the "Remove" icon. Click "OK" to confirm that you are sure you want to delete this category. You will be returned to the Manufacturer Category List.

Note that the manufacturer category you deleted is no longer listed. To recover this record, you must create a new manufacturer category, and re-associate any manufacturers that belong in that manufacturer category.

4.5.2. Manufacturers

Adding Manufacturers

To create a new manufacturers, select "Manufacturer | Add Manufacturer" in the VirtueMart admin menu.

Edit the following fields in the Manufacturer Information Form:

Manufacturer Name	The manufacturer's name or company name.
URL	http://www.example.com
	The manufacturer's fully qualified web address.
Manufacturer Category	The manufacturer category this manufacturer will be associated with.
Email	The manufacturer contact's email address.

Description Information promoting or about the manufacturer.

Click the "Save" icon to create your new manufacturer.

Editing Manufacturers

To edit an existing manufacturer, select "Manufacturer | List Manufacturers" to see a list of all manufacturers. You may also get to this screen by clicking on the linked text, "Manufacturer List", in the Manufacturers column on the Manufacturer Category List screen.

Click on the name of the manufacturer you would like to edit, or click on the linked text "update" in the Admin column - either will take you to the same Manufacturer Add Information form. Make your changes in the Manufacturer "Add Information" form (described above), and click on the "Save" icon. You will be returned to the Manufacturer List screen.

Deleting Manufacturers

Before deleting an existing manufacturer, all products associated to that manufacturer must be removed through either deletion or re-association to another manufacturer. VirtueMart will not allow the deletion of a manufacturer while these child records still exist for that manufacturer.

Once these child records have been removed, select "Manufacturer | List Manufacturers" to see a list of all manufacturer. Then click on the name of the manufacturer you would like to delete. In the Manufacturer Add Information form, click on the "Remove" icon. You will be returned to the Manufacturer List screen.

Once this manufacturer has been deleted, it is removed from the system. To recover this manufacturer, you must re-create the manufacturer information, and re-associate all appropriate products.

4.6. Product Administration

VirtueMart offers the ability to categorize products not only by manufacturer, but also by product category. Product categories may also contain subcategories enabling storekeepers to manage their products in as much detail as possible. Because products and product categories are associated to a particular vendor, it is important to create your vendor records before creating the product and product category records.

4.6.1. Product Categories

VirtueMart includes the ability to associate products to product categories and subcategories to enable better product management.

#	Category Name	Category Description	Products	Publish	ListOrder	Remove
1	1 1 Hand Tools	Hand Tools	3 [Show]	✓	1	
2	1 1 Power Tools	Power Tools	2 [Show]	✓	2	
3	1 2 Outdoor Tools	Outdoor Tools	1 [Show]	✓	4	
4	1 2 Indoor Tools	Indoor Tools	1 [Show]	✓	5	
5	1 1 Garden Tools	Garden Tools	4 [Show]	✓	3	

Figure 4.13. VirtueMart Administration: Category List

4.6.1.1. Adding or modifying Product Categories

To create a new product category, open the Product Category Form: "Products" # "Add Category".

To modify an existing category, click on the name of the category you want to edit in the category list.

The screenshot shows the VirtueMart Administration Category Form. At the top, there are tabs for 'Category Information' and 'Images'. Below the tabs, the 'Publish?' checkbox is checked. The 'Category Name' field is empty. The 'Category Description' field has a '[show/hide]' link. A large 'Format' toolbar is present. The 'Path:' field is empty. Below the path field are 'insert image' and 'insert page break' buttons. A note says 'ListOrder: New items default to the last place. Ordering can be changed after this item is saved.' The 'Parent:' dropdown is set to 'Default Top Level'. The 'Show x products per row:' dropdown is set to '1'. The 'Category Browse Page:' dropdown is set to 'managed'. The 'Category Flypage:' dropdown is set to 'flypage.tpl'.

Figure 4.14. VirtueMart Administration: Category Form

Product Category Fields

Publish?	Used to specify whether the category will be published on the site.
Category Name	The name that will be used to identify the category.
Category Description	The description that will be displayed for the category.
ListOrder	The Place of this category in a list with other categories.
Parent	The parent category with which this category will be associated. If the category is to be a top level category, leave the Parent drop down list with the <i>Default Top Level</i> selected. If the category is to be a sub category of an existing category, choose the appropriate parent category from the Parent drop down list.
Show x products per row	The number of products per row when displaying products of this category.

Note

The Browse Page usually has to be adjusted when the number of products per row has been changed. You can use `browse_2` for 2 products per row, `browse_3` for 3 products per row and so on (maximum per default: 5).

Category Browse Page

Example: `browse_1`

The template file for displaying the products of this category in a list.

Category Flypage

Syntax: *shop.flypage*

This is the template file for displaying the Product **Details** of a product in this category. You can create your own templates by modifying existing templates (in the directory `/components/com_virtuemart/themes/templates/product_details`).

The file for preparing the display of the Flypage is `/html/shop.product_details.php`. Some of the details that you can't find in the Flypage template can be found there.

Note

You should leave this field empty when you're not sure what to fill in.

4.6.1.2. Reordering or sorting Product Categories

You can reorder categories the way you want. There are different ways to achieve this.

- Use the blue arrows in the category list to move a category up or down
- Use the input fields in the rows of the category list to change the list order. If you have finished changing the values, click on the "Save" icon in the column header.
- Use the "sort alphabetically" icon in the list header. You can sort all categories in your store alphabetically using this functionality. Please note that this can't be undone. Once the categories are reordered you would have to change back manually.

4.6.1.3. Removing Product Categories

Before deleting an existing product category, all sub categories associated to the product category must be removed through either deletion or re-association. VirtueMart will not allow the deletion of a product category while subcategories still exist for that product category.

Categories can be removed from the store although they contain products. If products are assigned to more than one category, those products won't be removed if you delete just one category. But if a product is just assigned to one category, it will be deleted if you delete its category.

Removing a category can be done by clicking the "trash bin" icon in the last column of each row in the product category list. But you can also click the checkboxes of the categories you want to remove and click the "Remove" button in the toolbar.

4.6.2. Products

When creating your product records, it is important to make a distinction as to whether the product that is being created can be uniquely identified by its nature or name (e.g. Compact Disks, Video Cassettes, Books, etc.), or is one of many similar items that are uniquely identified by their attributes (e.g. Apparel, Furniture, Automobiles, etc.). The reason this distinction needs to be made, is because the methods for creating, editing and deleting differ for each. Items require the creation of Item Attributes, but products do not.

4.6.2.1. Adding/Updating Products

To create a new product, click on "Products" # "Add Product" to display the product form. Complete the product entry form and click the Save button in the top right corner to save the new product.

When Updating a product, just click on the Product Name in the Product List to display to Product Form of that product.

#	Product Name	Media	SKU	Price	Category	Manufacturer	Customer Reviews	Publish	Clone	Remove	Id
1	Chain Saw	(3)	P01	149.99 USD	Outdoor Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	✓	✓	7
2	Circular Saw	(2)	P02	220.90 USD	Power Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	✓	✓	8
3	Drill	(2)	P03-1	48.12 USD	Indoor Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	✓	✓	9
4	Hammer	(2)	H02	2.00 USD	Hand Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	✓	✓	6
5	Hand Shovel [Item Information]	(2)	G01	4.99 USD	Hand Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	✓	✓	1
6	Ladder [Item Information]	(2)	G02	49.99 USD	Garden Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	✓	✓	2
7	Nice Saw	(2)	H01	24.99 USD	Hand Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	✓	✓	5
8	Power Sander	(2)	P04	74.99 USD	Power Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	✓	✓	10
9	Shovel	(2)	G03	24.99 USD	Garden Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	✓	✓	3
10	Smaller Shovel	(2)	G04	19.99 USD	Garden Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	✓	✓	4

Figure 4.15. VirtueMart Administration: Product List

Product Form

Figure 4.16. VirtueMart Administration: Product Form, Tab 1 - General Information

Publish? Used to specify whether the product will be published on the site.

SKU Means Article Number. Stock keeping unit (SKU) is an identification, usually alphanumeric, of a particular product that allows it to be tracked for inventory purposes.

Name	The name that will be used to identify the product.
URL	A URL that can be displayed with a product. Usually used as a link to the product vendor or manufacturer.
Category	The product categories with which this product will be associated.
Vendor	The vendor with which the product will be associated.
Manufacturer	The manufacturer with which the product will be associated.
Retail Price	The price for the default Shopper Group. Just fill in a decimal number. Select the Product Currency from the drop-down list at the right.
VAT ID	The ID of the tax rate that will be applied to this product. Here you can select a specific tax rate for this product. If you don't want that this product is taxed, fill in a zero weight at "product weight" and Disable "Virtual Tax".
Short Description	The short description that will be displayed on the browse (overview) page for a category or search result.
Flypage Description	This is the details description that will be displayed on the Flypage (=details page) of this specific product.

Display Options

The screenshot shows the VirtueMart 'New Product' form with the 'Display Options' tab selected. The form has a header with 'Save', 'Cancel', and 'Reload' buttons. Below the header are tabs for 'Product Information', 'Display Options' (selected), 'Product Status', 'Product Dimensions and Weight', 'Product Images', and 'Notes'. The 'Display Options' section contains the following settings:

- Use Parent Settings:** Override Child products Display Values and use parents
- List:**
 - Use List box for child products
 - Display Child Description
 - 20%** Child Description
 - 10%** Child Attribute
 - Width**
 - Child Class Suffix**
- List Style:**
 - One Add to Cart Button
 - Add to Cart Button for each Child
 - Display Table Header
 - Link to child product from list
 - Include Product Type With Child
- Extra IDs:** Product IDs to include
- Quantity:**
 - Standard Quantity Box
 - Hide Quantity Box
 - Use Dropdown Box
 - Use Check Box
 - Use Radio Box
- Drop Down Box Values:**
 - 0** Start Value
 - 0** End Value
 - 1** Step Value

Figure 4.17. VirtueMart Administration: Product Form, Tab 2 - Display Options

Product Status

Figure 4.18. VirtueMart Administration: Product Form, Tab 3 - Product Status

Quantity in Stock The current quantity in stock for the item. Used for shipping and inventory purposes.

Availability Date When the current quantity in stock is available for distribution. Used for shipping and inventory purposes.

Availability Text / Image This is used to display it on the product details page. E.g.: "48 hrs." or "On Order". Alternatively you can select an availability image from the drop-down list below.

Tip

You can use your own images here! Just copy them to the directory /shop_image/availability and then you can select them here.

On Special? (Featured?) Used to indicate whether there are any specials running for the product. When checked, this product will be displayed on the "Featured Products Module".

Discount Type The type of special being run on the product. Select a discount from the discount list. When there are no discounts, create one using the Product Discount Form.

Advanced Attribute List Syntax:
Size, XL[+1.99], M, S[-2.99]; Colour, Red, Green, Yellow, ExpensiveColor[=24.00]; AndSoOn, . . .

Adds easy attributes to the product. These are attributes which can be selected by a customer. This does not create items for each attribute value! If you want to check the stock on each item (e.g. green, red and black T-Shirts...use the Attribute Form

to add Attributes and after that Items for each Attribute Value using the Item Form.

Custom Attribute List

Syntax: **Attribute1;Attribute2;Attribute3**

Adds custom attributes to the product. These are attributes which can be selected by a customer. This does not create items for each attribute value! If you want to check the stock on each item (e.g. green, red and black T-Shirts...use the Attribute Form to add Attributes and after that Items for each Attribute Value using the Item Form.

The screenshot shows the 'New Product' administration interface. At the top, there are buttons for Save, Cancel, and Reload. Below the title 'New Product' is a barcode icon. The main area is divided into tabs: Product Information, Display Options, Product Status, Product Dimensions and Weight, and others. The 'Product Dimensions and Weight' tab is active. It contains fields for Length, Width, Height, and Unit of Measure (set to 'inches'). Below that is a section for Weight with fields for Unit of Measure (set to 'pounds'), Unit (set to 'piece'), and packaging units (0, 1). Another section shows box units (0, 1).

Figure 4.19. VirtueMart Administration: Product Form, Tab 4 - Product Dimensions and Weight

Length	The length of the product. Used for shipping purposes.
Width	The width of the product. Used for shipping purposes.
Height	The height of the product. Used for shipping purposes
Unit of Measure - Dimensions	The unit of measure used in determining the LWH of a product. Used for shipping purposes.
Weight	The weight of the product. For shipping purposes.
Unit of Measure -Weight	The unit of measure used in determining the weight of a product. Used for shipping purposes.

Important

Allowed UOM are

po / pound(s)
 kg /kilogram(m)(s)
 ou / ounces
 lb / LB

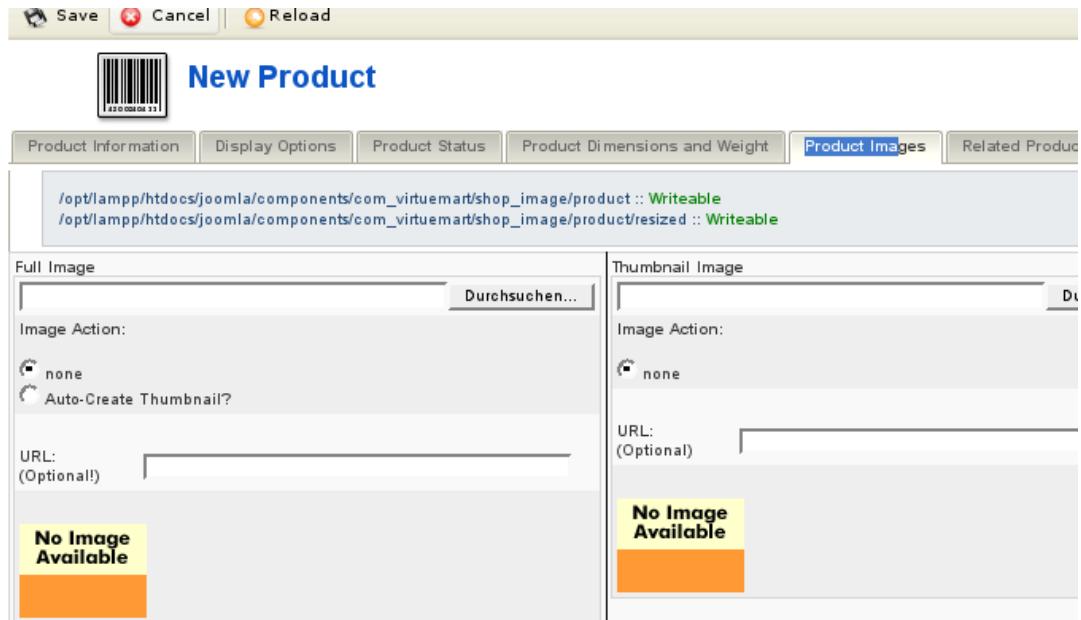


Figure 4.20. VirtueMart Administration: Product Form, Tab 5 - Product Images

Thumbnail A thumbnail image that can be displayed along with the product.

Full Image A larger image that can be displayed along with the product.

Note

If you have enabled Dynamic Thumbnail Resizing, the Thumbnail here won't be automatically created from the Full Image!

Related Products

Related Products are assigned to a product to indicate a general relationship of some kind. Related Products can be accessoires or other types or a similar product.

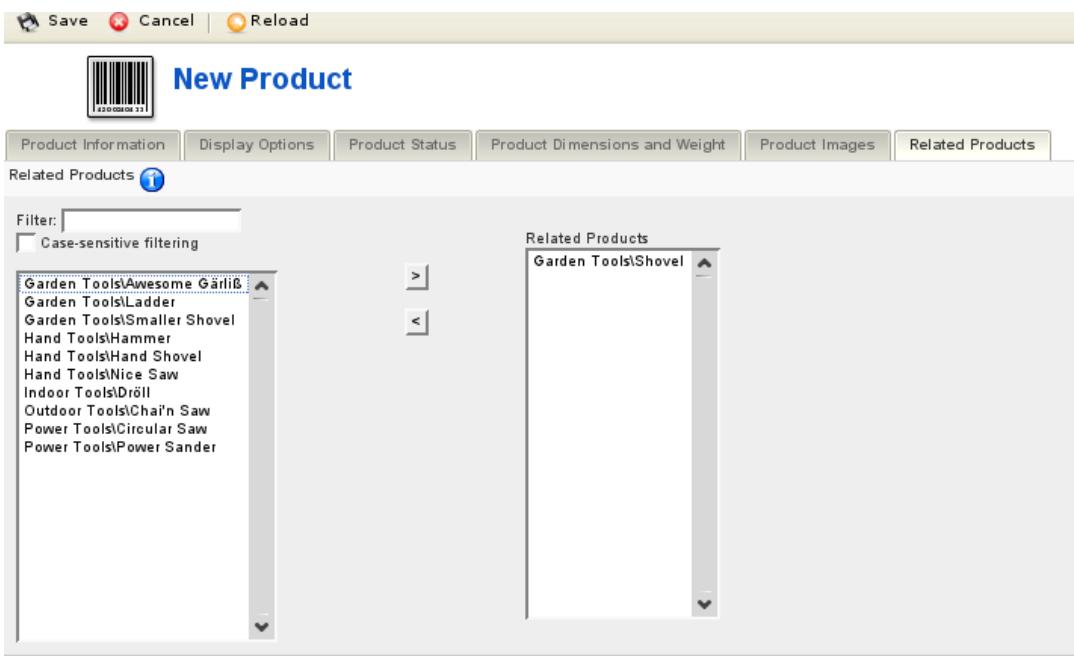


Figure 4.21. VirtueMart Administration: Product Form, Tab 6 - Related Products

Now you're done. Just click on "Save" to make sure the changes are stored.

4.6.2.2. Importing Products using CSV Import

VirtueMart allows a comfortable, automated mass Import of products using CSV- and Excel-Files.

Note

You can't import product images using this import, but just the names of the image files. You still need to upload the images into the product image directory. Thumbnails won't be automatically created.

The CSV Import Documentation can be found under the CSV Import/Export form ("Products" # "Use CSV Import/Export").

4.6.2.3. Deleting Products

To delete an existing product, click on "Products" -> "List Products" at the top of the VirtueMart Administration pages to display a list of product categories. Now click on the Trash Icon in the row of the product you want to delete and confirm that you "want to delete this record".

4.6.3. Product Price Management

Products usually have only one price, but if you need more - VirtueMart allows you a really flexible Price Management. You can have a different Product Price for each Shopper Group and you can even have different Prices depending on the Quantity in Cart.

4.6.3.1. Adding or Modifying Prices

The standard Product Price for the default Shopper Group can be set and modified in the Product Form.

Product Status Product Dimensions and Weight Product Images Related Products

Product Price (Net): 220.90000 **Currency:** US Dollar

Product Price (Gross): 239.12425

VAT Id: 2 (8.25%)

Discount Type: 20.00%

Discounted Price: 191.30

Figure 4.22. VirtueMart Administration: Product Form, Price Form in the Product Form

You can also directly add and modify Product Prices from the Product List. Just click on one of the Price Entries with the yellow background. This opens a Price Form where you can select Currency and Shopper Group this Price is for.

Name	Media	SKU	Price	Shopper Group	Currency	Manufacturer	Customer Reviews	Publish	Clone Product
Law	(3)	P01	220.90000	-default-	US Dollar	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	Clone
Saw	(2)	P02	4.99 USD	-default-	US Dollar	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	Clone
Hand Saw	(2)	P03	4.99 USD	-default-	US Dollar	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	Clone
Hammer	(2)	H02	4.99 USD	-default-	US Dollar	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	Clone
Overall	[Item Information]	G01	4.99 USD	Hand Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	Clone	
Garden Tools	[Item Information]	G02	49.99 USD	Garden Tools	Manufacturer	- [Add Review]	✓	Clone	

Figure 4.23. VirtueMart Administration: Price Form in the Product List

Each time you change the Shopper Group from the Drop-Down List, the Form refreshes. If the Price Field is empty, there's currently no Price for this Shopper Group.

You must save your Changes for the Price of a certain Shopper Group before you switch to another Shopper Group or your Changes will get lost.

So just click on "Save" and your Changes will be saved.

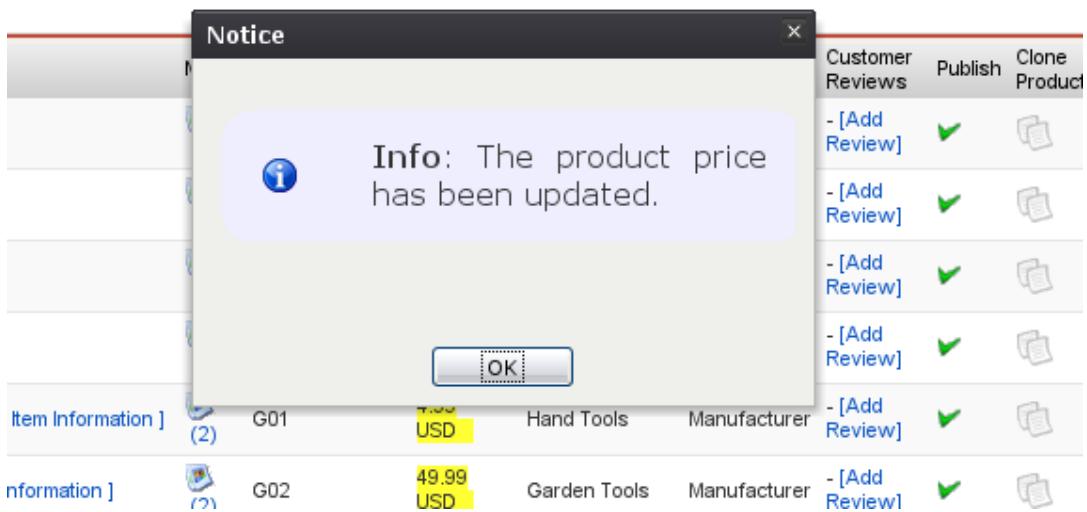


Figure 4.24. VirtueMart Administration: Price Update Notice

To add Prices for Quantity Ranges, you need to go to the Product Price List, which is available from the toolbar in the Product List.

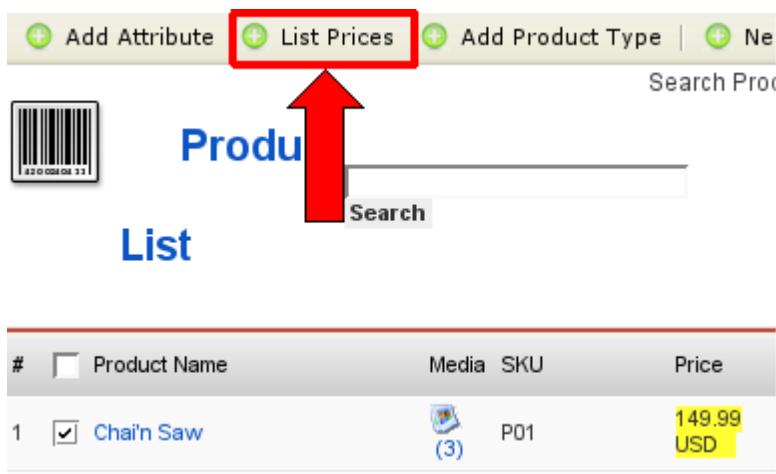


Figure 4.25. VirtueMart Administration: Product List - List Prices

You can also access the Price List for a Product from its Product Form. Just click on "List Prices" as shown in the following figure.

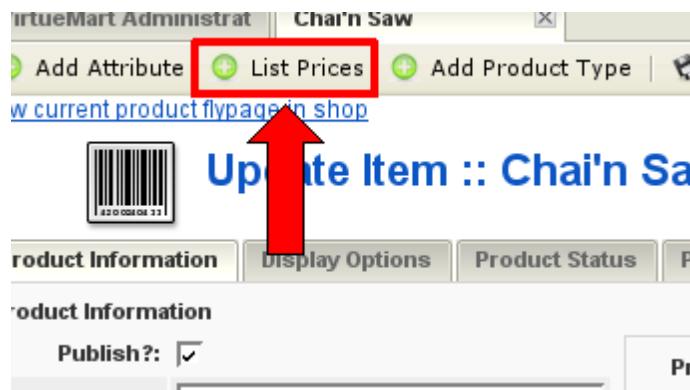


Figure 4.26. VirtueMart Administration: Product Form - List Prices

In the Price List for this Product you can find a List of all available Prices, for Shopper Groups and Quantities.

That's where you have a great Price overview. In this List you can modify existing Prices by clicking on a Group Name or add new Prices by clicking on the "New" button in the toolbar.

A screenshot of the VirtueMart Administration Product Price List for 'Chai'n Saw'. The table lists price groups with their names, prices, currencies, and quantity ranges. The 'New' button in the toolbar is highlighted with a red box and an arrow pointing to it.

#	Group Name	Price	Currency	Quantity Start
1	-default-	149.99000	USD	0
2	Gold Level	2.99000	USD	0

Figure 4.27. VirtueMart Administration: Product Price List

In the Product Price Form you can choose the Price, the Shopper Group and the Quantity Range this Price is valid for. If you leave the Quantity Fields empty, the Price will be independent from the Quantity in Cart.

Product Price (Net):

Product Price (Gross):

Currency:

Shopper Group:

Quantity Start:

Quantity End:

Figure 4.28. VirtueMart Administration: Product Price Form

Don't forget to save your changes when you're done.

4.6.3.2. Deleting a Price

Prices can only be deleted from the Product Price List. How to access this List can be read in the Section "Adding or Modifying Prices".

In this List you can click on the Trash Bin Icon at the end of the row of each Price Entry to remove a Price. You can also select multiple Prices using the Checkboxes and then click on "Remove" in the Toolbar.

4.6.4. Product Attributes

Attributes are the characteristics of a product like Color, Size or Type. If you add attributes to a product, this product becomes a "parent product". After that you can add child products (called "Items") to this parent product each having different values for each attribute.

4.6.4.1. Adding Product Attributes

To create a new product attribute, click on "Products" # "List Products" to display a list of all products. Then click on the name of the product for which the attribute is being created to display the product entry form for that parent item. Then click on the "Add Attribute" button on the top of the screen. A new window will open displaying the attribute entry form. Complete the attribute entry form and click the Save button at the top of the form to save the new item attribute. Next, you need to define the new attribute for the items. Click on the name of an item to display the product entry form for that item. Populate the new item attribute field in the product entry form and click on the Save button at the end of the form to save the new item attribute definition.

Product Attributes Form Fields

Name	The name used to identify the attribute.
Number in List	The order in which the attribute is listed.

4.6.4.2. Editing product Attributes

To edit an existing product attribute, click on "Products" # "List Products" to display the list of products. Then click on the name of the parent product for which the attribute is being edited to display the product entry form for that parent product. Then click on "Products" # "Current Product" # "List Attributes" in the top menu. A new window will open displaying a list of product attributes assigned to the product selected. Click on the name of the attribute you want to edit to display the attribute entry form for that attribute. Complete the attribute entry form and click the Save button at the top of the form to update the item attribute.

4.6.4.3. Deleting Product Attributes

To delete an existing product attribute, click on "Products" # "List Products" to display the list of products. Then click on the name of the parent product for which the attribute is being edited to display the product entry form for that parent product. Then click on "Products" # "Current Product" # "List Attributes" in the top menu. A new window will open displaying a list of product attributes assigned to the product selected. To delete an attribute, click on the Trash Bin icon in the last column of the row of the attribute you want to delete.

4.6.5. Items (create Child Products for Parent Products)

Going back now to offering variations on a product: If you want to offer a fixed list of variations for your customer to choose from, rather than allowing them to pick and mix attributes as they please, you need to create some '*items*'. Note: These are different from the content 'items' in Mambo itself. An item in VirtueMart is a pre-defined variation on the main product. In order to create an item, you have to set up at least one *attribute* first. Hence, it is only *after* you have added an attribute that the '*New Item*' toolbar button and its related menu option appear.

Adding Items

To create a new item, a parent product must exist / be created first. When completing the form, keep in mind that the product information, product dimensions, and product images entered here are the ones that will be displayed initially for all items. Once a specific item is selected by the customer, the product information, product dimensions, and product images for that item will be displayed. Next, the attributes that will be used to identify the items need to be created. Open the Product Form of the Parent Item you create in the first step.

#	Product Name	Media	SKU	Price
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chai'n Saw		P01 (3)	149.99 USD
2	<input type="checkbox"/> Circular Saw		P02	220.00

Figure 4.29. VirtueMart Administration: Add Attribute

Click on "Add Attribute" and a new window will open displaying the Attribute Form. Complete the attribute entry form and click the Save button in the toolbar to save the new item attribute. Once all item attributes have been defined, it is time to create the individual items (=child products!).

Figure 4.30. VirtueMart Administration: Add a new item (=child product)

Click on the Add Items button in the toolbar to display the product entry form for the specific item. This form is the same as previous product entry forms only the vendor and category fields have been populated for you, and item attribute fields for the attributes you have defined are now available. Complete the product entry form and click the Save button in the toolbar to save the new item.

Editing Items



Product List



#	<input type="checkbox"/>	Product Name
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chain Saw
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Circular Saw
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drill
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hammer
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hand Shovel [Item Information]
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ladder [Item Information]
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nice Saw

Figure 4.31. VirtueMart Administration: Edit Items

To edit an existing item, open the product List and click on the "Item Information" Link behind a Product. You will be presented a List of all Child Items of that product. If you want to make changes to a specific item, click on the name of the item you want to edit to display the item entry form for that item. Make your changes and click the save button at the end of the form to update the item. Click on the Return to Parent Product link at the top of the page to edit another item.

Deleting Items

To delete an item, List the Product's Items like in the previous section. Then click on the basket at the end of the row of the item you want to delete. If you want to delete all items, you must delete each item before deleting the parent item. Once all items have been deleted, click on the Delete button at the end of the product entry form of the parent item to delete the parent item.

4.6.6. Product Types

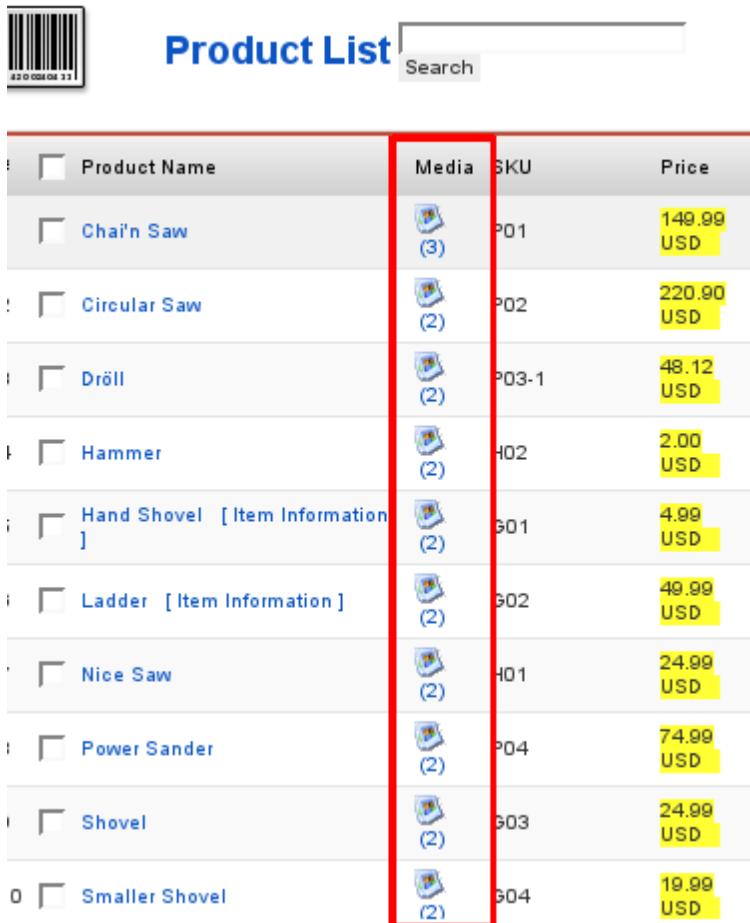
4.6.6.1. Product Type Management

4.6.6.2. Product Type Parameters

4.6.6.3. Product - Type Relations

4.6.7. Product Files and additional images

VirtueMart allows to manage additional files and images for each product. The File Manager can be accessed from the Product List:



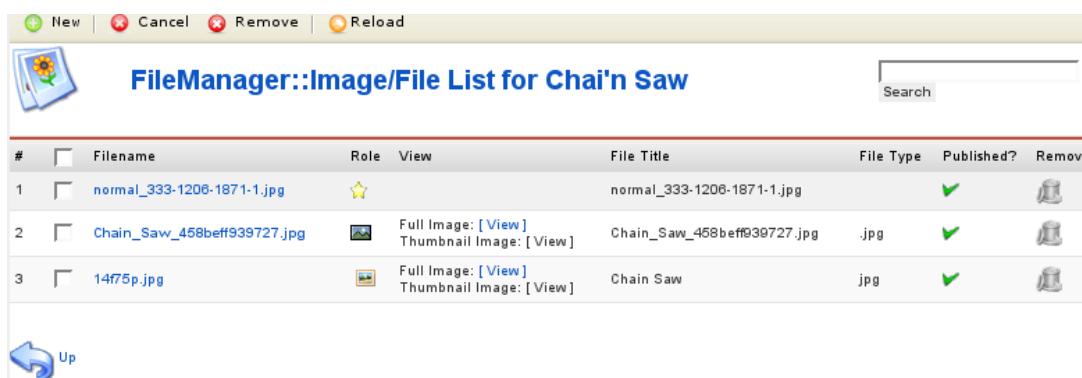
The screenshot shows the VirtueMart Product List interface. At the top, there is a search bar and a barcode icon. The main area is a table with the following columns: Product Name, Media, SKU, and Price. The 'Media' column is highlighted with a red box. The data in the table is as follows:

Product Name	Media	SKU	Price
Chain Saw	(3)	P01	149.99 USD
Circular Saw	(2)	P02	220.90 USD
Dröll	(2)	P03-1	48.12 USD
Hammer	(2)	H02	2.00 USD
Hand Shovel [Item Information]	(2)	G01	4.99 USD
Ladder [Item Information]	(2)	G02	49.99 USD
Nice Saw	(2)	H01	24.99 USD
Power Sander	(2)	P04	74.99 USD
Shovel	(2)	G03	24.99 USD
Smaller Shovel	(2)	G04	19.99 USD

Figure 4.32. VirtueMart Administration:

The image icon is the link to the file manager. The number behind the icon is the total number of all files assigned to this product.

The File List for a Product contains all files currently assigned to the product. Files can have different "roles" like "downloadable file (to be sold!)", "additional file" and "additional image".



The screenshot shows the VirtueMart FileManager::Image/File List for the product "Chai'n Saw". The interface includes a toolbar with New, Cancel, Remove, and Reload buttons, and a search bar. The main area is a table with the following columns: #, Filename, Role, View, File Title, File Type, Published?, and Remove. The data in the table is as follows:

#	Filename	Role	View	File Title	File Type	Published?	Remove
1	normal_333-1206-1871-1.jpg	★		normal_333-1206-1871-1.jpg	jpg	✓	
2	Chain_Saw_458beff939727.jpg		Full Image: [View] Thumbnail Image: [View]	Chain_Saw_458beff939727.jpg	jpg	✓	
3	14f75p.jpg		Full Image: [View] Thumbnail Image: [View]	Chain Saw	jpg	✓	

At the bottom left, there is a "Up" arrow icon.

Figure 4.33. VirtueMart Administration: File List

To add a new file, let's say an .mp3 file which is the file we want to sell, we just open the file form by clicking the "New" button in the toolbar of the file list.

Figure 4.34. VirtueMart Administration: File Form

You have the chance to upload a new file, which makes sense if you just upload a smaller image or product specsheet.

Note

If you want to assign a bigger file (maybe a 8MB mp3 file) you need to upload the file using an FTP program into the directory you have specified for downloadable product files (see Configuration). After you have done this, you can select the file from the drop-down list in the file form.

4.6.8. Product Discounts



Discounts in VirtueMart must be created in the Product Discount Form before being able to assign a Product to a specific Discount.

Caution

When updating a discount, your changes apply to all products which are assigned to this discount.

Adding / Updating a Discount

Go to "Product" -> "Add/Edit Product Discount".

Product Discount List					
#	Discount amount	Discount Type	Startdate of discount	End date of discount	Remove
1	2.00	Total	2004-10-25	-	
2	10.00	Percentage	-	-	
3	20.00	Percentage	2004-10-14	2007-11-07	

Figure 4.35. VirtueMart Administration: Access the Product Discount

Now fill in the details for this Discount Record:

 Save  Cancel | 

Add/Edit Product Discount

Discount amount: 

Discount Type: Percentage  Total

Startdate of discount:  

End date of discount:  

Figure 4.36. VirtueMart Administration: Product Discount Form

Discount Amount (required) This is the amount of discount you want to have subtracted (added) from the product price.

Has the syntax: 000.0000 (no comma!)

Discount Type (required) The Discount Type specifies how the amount is handled: either as a percentage or as a total amount. If you select "Percentage", the amount will mean that you give a Discount of XX % to the Product Price. If "Total" is selected, the amount will be subtracted (added) from the Product Price.

Start Date (optional) By clicking on "..." you can specify a date from the calendar, which will be the first day, the Discount is calculated and shown to the customer. The Start Date is no must. You can also only have an End Date or leave this field blank when this discount shall begin instantly.

End Date (optional) If you have specified a Start Date, you'll surely want an End Date - that would be something like "Sale". So click on "..." and specify the last Day of the Sale from the calendar. You can also only have an Start Date or leave this field blank when this discount is not limited.

When you're done, don't forget to "Save" your information.

Deleting a Discount

You can easily delete a discount. Note that this removes the Discount from all products which are assigned to it.

Just go to the Product Discount List and click on the Trash Icon of the row of the Discount you want to delete at the right side of the List. Confirm that you "want to delete this record" and done.

4.6.9. Product Reviews

4.7. User Management

VirtueMart comes with an extended User Management compared to Joomla's User Management Features.

Important

Always use the VirtueMart User Manager for Adding / Editing and Deleting Users to / from your Joomla! site! If you use Joomla's built-in User Manager you will run into troubles because important database entries are not created for such users. So for the other case: When you delete Users with the Joomla! User Manager from the site that have been added with the VirtueMart User Manager, you will have a lot of useless database entries.

VirtueMart also provides the ability to create any number of addresses for a particular user. Not only can a user have separate bill to and ship to addresses, but addresses for home and business as well.

4.7.1. Shopper Groups

VirtueMart offers the ability to not only manage users by vendor, but also by shopper group. This enables storekeepers to create shopper groups for whatever need (e.g. site access, customer rating, tax display, etc.). These shopper groups can then be used to provide special services, discounts, or access to a specific group of users. Because users and shopper groups are associated to a particular vendor, it is important to create your vendor records before creating the user and shopper group records.

Note

There's only one "default" shopper group. Whatever shopper group you set as default, its settings are used for new customers. New customers are automatically assigned to the default shopper group.

4.7.1.1. Adding or modifying a Shopper Group

You can add and modify shopper groups in VirtueMart using the Shopper Group List, which can be accessed through the menu: "Shopper" # "List Shopper Groups".

Figure 4.37. VirtueMart Administration: Shopper Group List

To add a new shopper group, just click on the "New" button in the toolbar. In the following shopper group form just fill out the necessary fields.

Figure 4.38. VirtueMart Administration: Shopper Group Form

4.7.1.2. Deleting Shopper Groups

You can delete Shopper Groups from the Shopper Group List by clicking the "Trash Bin" icon in the last column of each row in the shopper group list. You could also check the checkboxes of each shopper group which you want to remove and click the "Remove" button in the toolbar.

Note

You can't delete shopper groups, which still has customers assigned to it.

4.7.2. Users

4.7.2.1. Adding or modifying Users

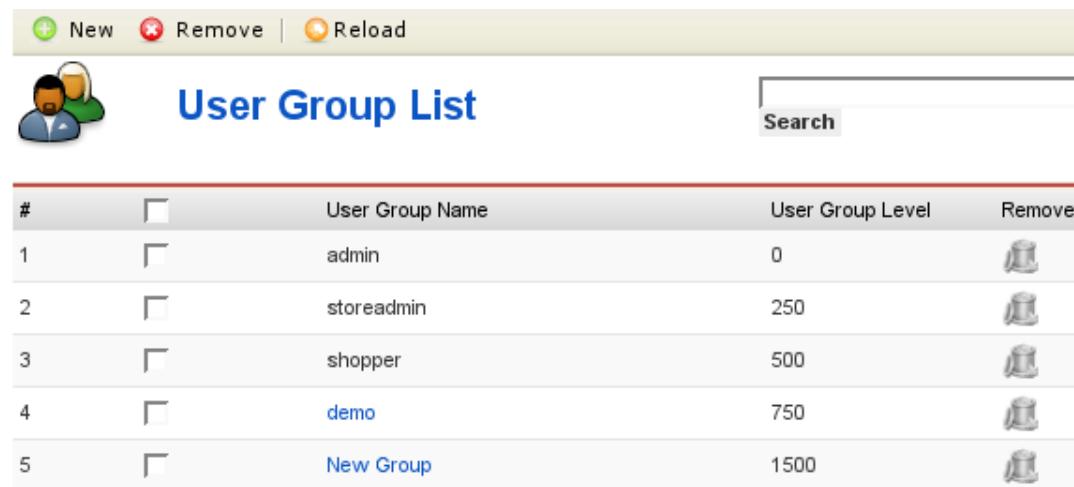
4.7.2.2. Deleting Users

4.7.3. User Groups

User Groups are "Permission Groups" and used to restrict access to certain parts and functions of the shop. Each user is assigned to a user group. By default registered customers are members of the group "shopper".

When can this be useful? Imagine you have a user, who wants to access the "Report" section of the store. Usually this is restricted to admins and storeadmins. If you assign this user to the admin/storeadmin group, he will also be able to access other sensible parts of the store, where he could change or delete important data. The solution is to add a new User Group called "Report", which will have the same permissions as shoppers PLUS access to the "report" core module. After the Group has been added, you can assign this user to the new group.

User Groups can be added, modified and deleted from the User Group List ("Admin" # "User Groups").



#	User Group Name	User Group Level	Remove
1	admin	0	
2	storeadmin	250	
3	shopper	500	
4	demo	750	
5	New Group	1500	

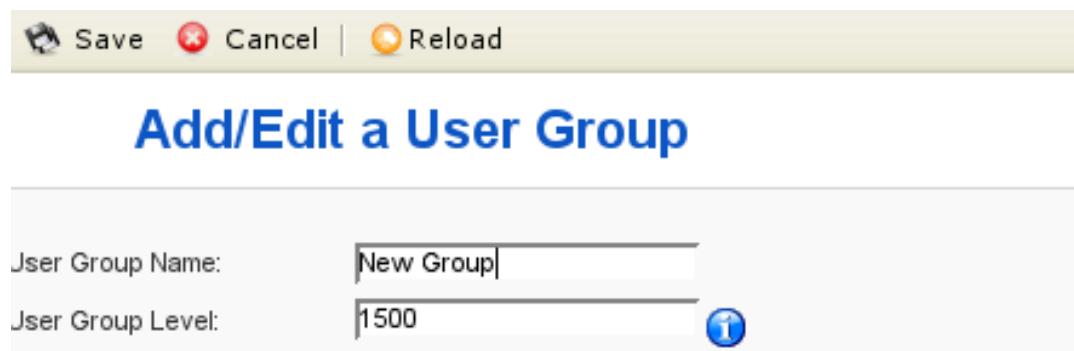
Figure 4.39. VirtueMart Administration: User Group List

You can click on the name of an existing group to open the user group form.

Note

The groups "admin", "storeadmin" and "shopper" are key groups in VirtueMart and can't be modified nor removed.

You can add a new Group by clicking on the "New" button in the toolbar. This opens the User Group Form:



User Group Name:	<input type="text" value="New Group"/>
User Group Level:	<input type="text" value="1500"/> 

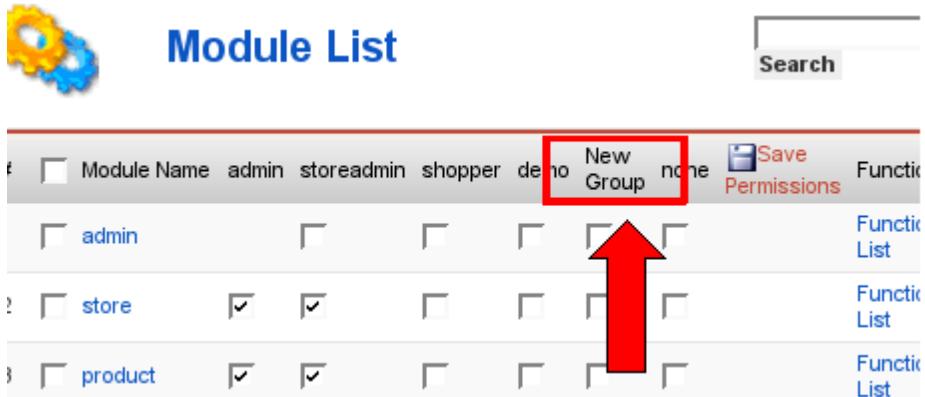
Figure 4.40. VirtueMart Administration: User Group Form

Here you can choose a name for the group and the group level.

Note

The higher the group level, the less permissions are assumed: "admin" has higher permissions than "storeadmin", because the group level number is lower.

After you have saved the user group, it is available in the core module and function list/forms.



The screenshot shows the 'Module List' interface. At the top, there is a search bar and a 'Save' button. Below the search bar, there is a 'Permissions' button. A red box highlights the 'New Group' button, and a red arrow points to it. The table below lists three modules: 'admin', 'store', and 'product'. Each module has a 'New Group' column with checkboxes. The 'store' module has checkboxes checked in the 'New Group' column, while 'admin' and 'product' do not.

	Module Name	admin	storeadmin	shopper	de	no	New Group	name	Save	Permissions	Function List
1	admin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List
2	store	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List					
3	product	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Function List					

Figure 4.41. VirtueMart Administration: The New Group in the Module List

Now you can start to grant permissions to this new group by checking the boxes in this list for the column of the "New Group".

Important

The same needs to be done for the function list of **each** module!

4.7.4. User Registration Fields

The "User Fields" Management allows you to freely modify the fields displayed on registration and account maintenance. Such fields are for example: First Name, Last Name, Telephone,...

The User Field Management can be accessed via "Admin" # "Manage User Fields".



The screenshot shows the 'Manage User Fields' interface. The left sidebar has a tree structure with 'Users', 'User Groups', 'Manage User Fields' (selected), 'List Countries', 'Add Country', 'List Currencies', 'Add Currency', 'List Modules', 'Add Module', 'Store', and 'Products'. The main area has a toolbar with 'New', 'Publish', 'Unpublish', 'Remove', and 'Reload' buttons. Below the toolbar is a search bar. The table lists user fields with columns for '#', 'Field name', 'Field title', 'Field type', and 'Required'. The 'Required' column contains red 'X' marks for 'delimiter_userinfo' and 'password2', and green checkmarks for 'email', 'username', 'password', and 'delimiter'. The 'Field title' column contains titles like '_PHPSHOP_ORDER_PRINT_CUST_INFO_LBL', '_REGISTER_EMAIL', '_REGISTER_UNAME', '_PHPSHOP_SHOPPER_FORM_PASSWORD_1', '_PHPSHOP_SHOPPER_FORM_PASSWORD_2', and '_DASHADMIN_USER_FORM_RI_ITA_IPI'.

#	Field name	Field title	Field type	Required
1	<input type="checkbox"/> delimiter_userinfo	_PHPSHOP_ORDER_PRINT_CUST_INFO_LBL	delimiter	X
2	<input type="checkbox"/> email	_REGISTER_EMAIL	emailaddress	✓
3	<input type="checkbox"/> username	_REGISTER_UNAME	text	✓
4	<input type="checkbox"/> password	_PHPSHOP_SHOPPER_FORM_PASSWORD_1	password	✓
5	<input type="checkbox"/> password2	_PHPSHOP_SHOPPER_FORM_PASSWORD_2	password	✓
6	<input type="checkbox"/> delimiter_ri_itai	_DASHADMIN_USER_FORM_RI_ITA_IPI	delimiter	X

Figure 4.42. VirtueMart Administration: Manage User Fields

4.7.4.1. Add a new Field

You can add a new field by clicking the "New" button on the toolbar. The Field Form allows you to choose from various field types like "text field", "checkbox", "textarea", "date", "drop down", "email"

or "EU VAT ID". In our example we will add a new field where users from the EU can fill in the EU VAT ID of their company if applicable.

Add / Edit User Fields



Add Field

Type:	EU VAT ID
Table Field Name:	
Title (Field Label):	
Description, field-tip: text or HTML:	
Required?:	No
Show on Account?:	No
User Read Only?:	No
Show at Registration?:	No
Published:	No
Size:	
Max Length:	
Move the customer into the following shopper group upon successful validation of the EU VAT ID :	
<input type="button" value="-default-"/>	

Figure 4.43. VirtueMart Administration: Add a new User Field

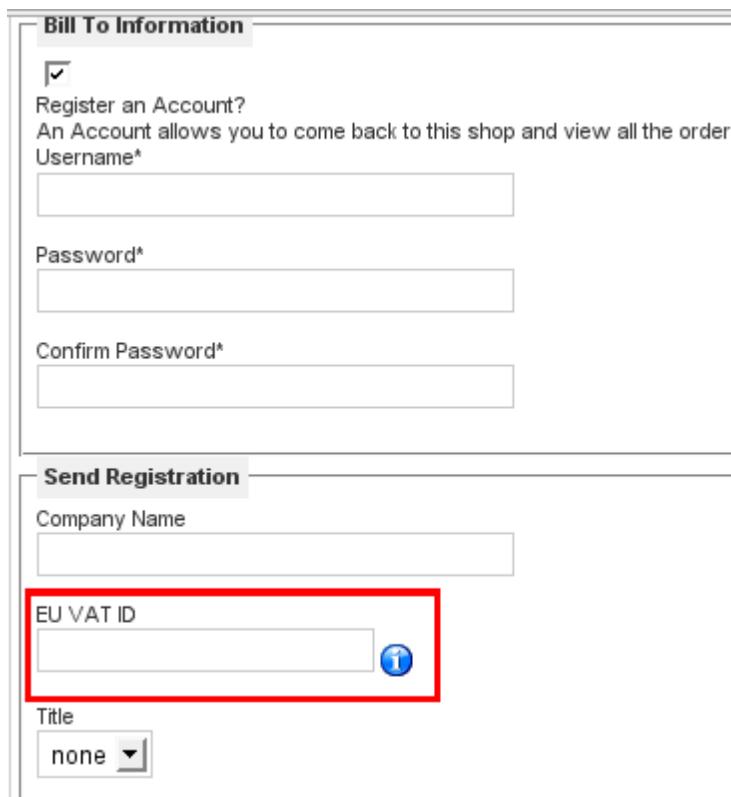
The Form Fields have the following meaning:

Type	The type of this field. Can't be changed afterwards!
Table Field Name	The name of the column that will be inserted into the table structure of the tables "jos_vm_user_info" and "jos_vm_order_user_info" in your database.
Title	This is the Label of the Field in the Registration / Account Maintenance Form

Description	This description will be shown to the customer in the frontend in a small tooltip besides the field to explain the field.
Required?	If this is set to yes, a value must be provided or chosen, otherwise registration will not be possible.
Show on Account?	This defines whether the field is shown in the account maintenance form or not.
User Read Only?	If this is set to yes, the field is read-only and can't be changed by the customer.
Show at Registration?	If this is set to yes, the field will be shown in the registration form.
Published	Here you can unpublish the field completely, so it won't be shown in any form.
Size	This defines the length of text input fields.
Max Length	This is the maximum number of characters that can be filled into the text field.
Move the customer into the following Shopper Group...	Here you can select into which shopper group the newly registered customer is moved when the EU VAT ID has been successfully validated.

If you are finished filling in the necessary values, don't forget to Save your changes.

Here is a screenshot of the newly added field "EU Vat ID" in the registration form:



The screenshot shows the 'Bill To Information' section of the VirtueMart registration form. The 'EU VAT ID' field is highlighted with a red box and contains the number '1'. The 'EU VAT ID' field is located under the 'Send Registration' section, which includes fields for 'Company Name' and 'Title'.

Figure 4.44. VirtueMart Administration: New Field "EU Vat ID" in the registration form

4.7.4.2. Modifying Fields

Fields can be reordered, renamed, published, set to be required or not and much more.

Reordering Fields

Fields can be reordered using the blue arrows in the user field list or using the text input fields in each row of the list:

Field	Published	Show in registration form	Show in account maintenance	Reorder	Remove
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▼ ▲ ■	<input type="text" value="1"/> 
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▲ ▼	<input type="text" value="2"/> 
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▲ ▼	<input type="text" value="3"/> 
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▲ ▼	<input type="text" value="4"/> 
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▲ ▼	<input type="text" value="5"/> 
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▲ ▼	<input type="text" value="6"/> 
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▲ ▼	<input type="text" value="7"/> 
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▲ ▼	<input type="text" value="8"/> 
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▲ ▼	<input type="text" value="9"/> 
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▲ ▼	<input type="text" value="10"/> 
				▲ ▼	

Figure 4.45. VirtueMart Administration: Re-Ordering in the Field List

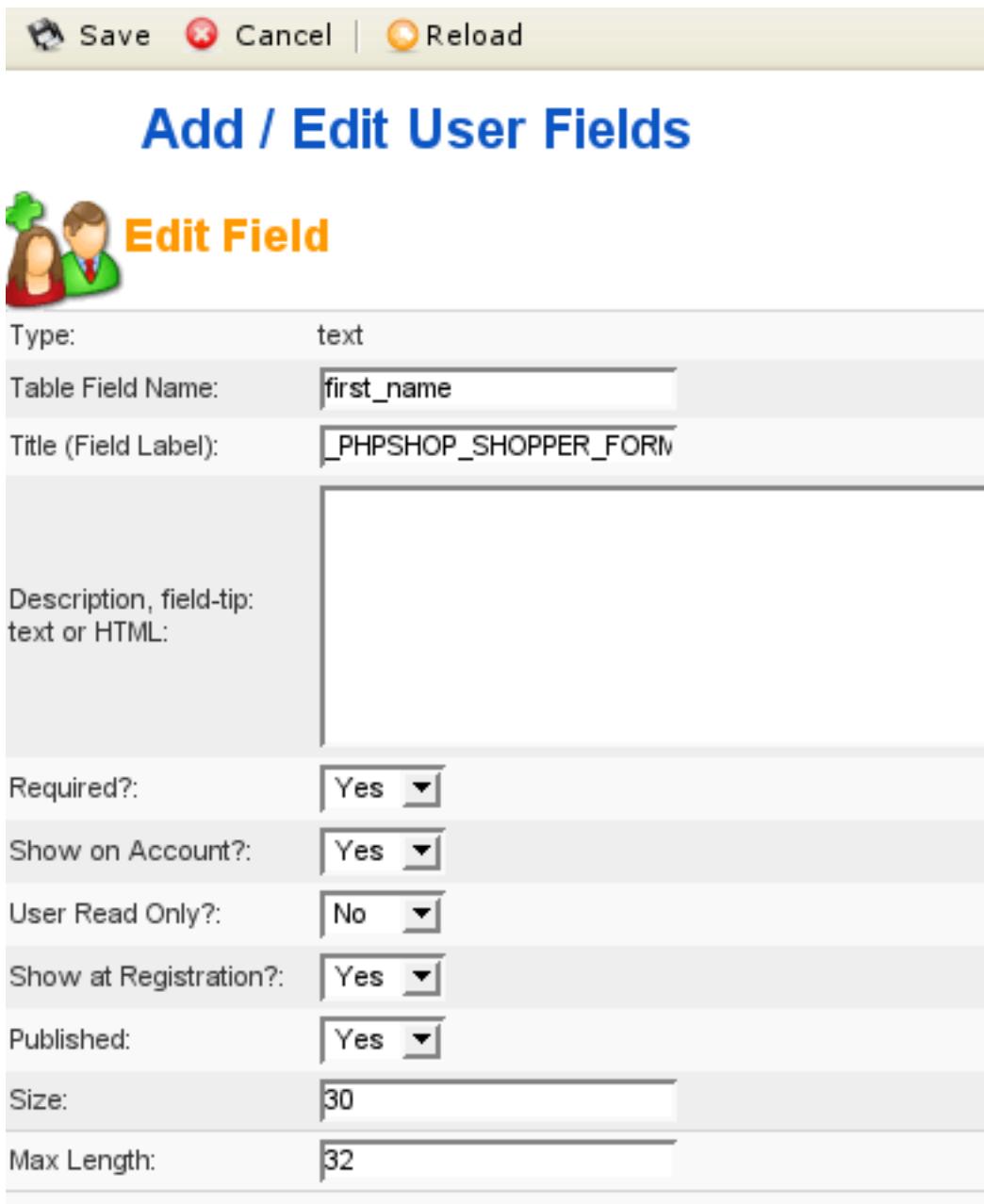
If you have used the input fields to change the ordering of the fields, you must apply your changes by clicking the Save Icon in the top of this column. After that the fields will be reordered.

Publish (show)/Unpublish (hide) Fields

You can publish and unpublish fields by clicking on the icon in the column "Published". After that the publish state will be toggled.

Changing Fields

You can access the field form by clicking a field name in the User Field List. In this form you can modify all settings except the field type.



The screenshot shows the 'Edit Field' page in the VirtueMart administration interface. The title 'Add / Edit User Fields' is at the top. Below it, a 'Save' button, a 'Cancel' button, and a 'Reload' button are visible. The main area is titled 'Edit Field' with a small icon of a person and a plus sign. The form fields are as follows:

Type:	text
Table Field Name:	first_name
Title (Field Label):	_PHPSHOP_SHOPPER_FORM
Description, field-tip: text or HTML:	(empty text area)
Required?:	Yes
Show on Account?:	Yes
User Read Only?:	No
Show at Registration?:	Yes
Published:	Yes
Size:	30
Max Length:	32

Figure 4.46. VirtueMart Administration: Modifying a Field

4.7.4.3. Deleting Fields

You can delete all non-system fields from the User Field List. You just need to click on the Trash Bin icon at the end of the row of the item you want to remove. You can also select the checkboxes of the fields which you want to delete and then click the "Remove" button in the toolbar.

4.8. Order Administration

Your shop is online, your catalogue is bursting at the seams, you've run all of your payment processing tests, and you're ready to go live! Well, maybe not quite. You need to know what to do when those orders come flooding in. When someone orders a product through your VirtueMart website, a record is created in the system with the details of the order.

The *order record* has a 'status' to indicate where the order is in the stream of events – for example, whether it has been paid for, shipped, or cancelled. The actual values you use for status are up to you, but by default you are given status values of *Pending*, *Confirmed*, *Cancelled*, *Refunded*, and *Shipped*. If you want to define your own status values, you can do so by selecting "List Order Status Types" from the 'Order Status' sub-menu of the "Orders" menu.

To view all of the orders in the system, click on "List Orders" on the "Orders" menu. This takes you to the Order List which is illustrated in the next figure.

4.8.1. The Order List

#	<input type="checkbox"/>	Order Number	Name	Print Label	Track	Void Label	Print view	Order Date	Last Modified	Status	Update	SubTotal	Remove
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	00000026	Sören Eberhardt					16-Mär-07 06:44	16-Mär-07 06:44	Pending	<input type="checkbox"/> Notify Customer? Update Status	\$210.36	
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	00000025	Sören Eberhardt					13-Mär-07 14:23	13-Mär-07 14:23	Pending	<input type="checkbox"/> Notify Customer? Update Status	\$0.00	
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	00000024	Sören Eberhardt					13-Mär-07 14:16	13-Mär-07 14:16	Pending	<input type="checkbox"/> Notify Customer? Update Status	\$0.00	
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	00000023	Sören Eberhardt					13-Mär-07 14:14	13-Mär-07 14:14	Pending	<input type="checkbox"/> Notify Customer? Update Status	\$0.00	

Figure 4.47. VirtueMart Administration: Order List

When you click on an order number, you are given the full details of the order as shown in the next figure.

When you click on the name of the customer, you will be taken to the user form for this user. The Print View Link opens a new window that allows you to print out the order. In the status column you can see the current status of this order. You can change this value and after that click on the "Update Status" button to the right to update the order status. If you wish to notify the customer about this action, check the option "Notify the customer?".

To delete an order, use the Trash Bin icon in the last column or select multiple orders using the checkboxes in the first column and click on "remove" in the toolbar.

4.8.2. The Order Details

The screenshot shows the 'Order Status Change' tab selected. The order status is set to 'Pending' with an 'Update' button. There is a comment field and two checkboxes: 'Notify Customer?' and 'Include this comment?'. Below this, the 'Bill To' and 'Ship To' sections are displayed, showing the same information for Sören Eberhardt.

Figure 4.48. VirtueMart Administration: Upper Part of the Order Details

The Order Details View shows all details which are relevant to the store owner. You have three tabs in the upper part: Order Status Change, Order History and Modify Order.

The screenshot shows a table of purchased products. Each row includes the quantity, product name, SKU, order status (with a dropdown menu for 'Pending' and 'Update'), and total price. The table also shows download statistics for the first product, including a download link, remaining downloads, and resend download ID buttons. At the bottom, there are summary totals for subtotals, tax, shipping, handling, shipping tax, and a total.

Quantity	Name	SKU	Order Status	Product Price (Net)	Product Price (Gross)	Total
1	Magnificent Size: Big	Traversal	Order Status: Pending Update	\$58.19440	\$67.51	\$67.51
DOWNLOAD STATS normal_333-1206-1871-1.jpg Remaining Downloads: 3 Resend Download ID 738_dexter9plate.gif Remaining Downloads: 3 Resend Download ID						
1	Metal Ladder Material: Metal	L01	Order Status: Pending Update	\$79.99000	\$86.59	\$86.59
1	Dröll	P03-1	Order Status: Pending Update	\$48.12000	\$52.09	\$52.09
1	Hammer Size: big Material: wood and metal	H02	Order Status: Pending Update	\$2.00000	\$2.17	\$2.17
				SubTotal:	\$188.31375	
				Tax Total:	\$20.24	
				Shipping and Handling Fee:	\$0.00	
				Shipping Tax:	\$0.00	
				Fee:	+\$2.00	
				Total:	\$210.36	

Figure 4.49. VirtueMart Administration: Bottom of the Order Details

In this part of the order details screen you see the list of all purchased products. If the products are downloadable products, you can re-send the Download Notification Email or re-initiate the downloads if the maximum download number has been reached or the download period has expired.

You can also change the order status for single order items using the status drop-down list in each row of the order item list.

4.9. Vendor Administration

Warning

THIS PART OF VirtueMart STILL IS NOT COMPLETE. IT'S NOT RECOMMENDED TO USE THIS FEATURE.

Vendors and Vendor Categories represent the top most tier of VirtueMart administration. Through vendor administration, the store keeper is able to manage products, users, and orders by vendor or supplier.

[TODO - heirarchical drawing]

For simple stores where there are only a few products offered, vendor administration is not necessarily needed, but for larger more complex stores, such as an online mall, vendor administration can be essential.

Since all products, product categories, users, and orders are associated to the vendor record, establishing the vendor and vendor category structure is the first step to building the online store.

Note that it is not necessary to create the vendor categories first. Vendors can be re-associated to vendor categories after all the vendor records have been created. However, creating the vendor category records first can save some extra work if you already know how you want to categorize your vendors.

4.9.1. Vendor Categories

Vendor categories are a way to classify the types of goods and services that vendors offer on your site. For example, you may have an online mall for buying and selling furniture. You may want to create vendor categories such as "Antiques", "Office Furniture", and "Patio Furniture".

Note that a vendor on your site can only be associated with a single vendor category, so it is important to use categories that are broad enough to represent the shopper's choice of storefronts. For example, "Antique Furniture" and "Vintage Clothing" would not be broad enough categories if you have a vendor that sells both types of items. In this case, you might want to use "Antiques" as your vendor category.

VirtueMart creates the vendor category name "-default-" upon installation. It is not necessary to change this unless you choose to fully utilize the vendor category functionality.

4.9.1.1. Browsing Vendor Categories

The Vendor Category List can be accessed in the Vendor Menu ("Vendor" # "List Vendor Categories"). You may easily navigate to the vendor list by clicking on the linked text "list" in the "Vendors" column of the Vendor Category List.

#	<input type="checkbox"/> Category Name	Category Description	Vendors	Remove
1	<input type="checkbox"/> -default-	Default	List	
2	<input type="checkbox"/> New Category		List	

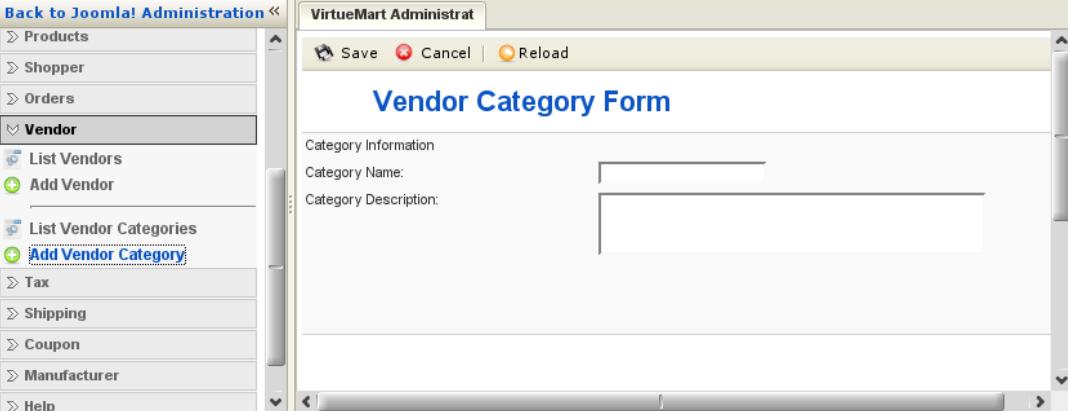
Figure 4.50. VirtueMart Administration: Vendor List for a Category

This will open the Vendor List page.

4.9.1.2. Adding Vendor Categories

To create a new vendor category, select "Vendor | Add Vendor Category" from the VirtueMart admin interface.

This will bring up the Vendor Category Form.



The screenshot shows the VirtueMart Administration interface. On the left, a sidebar menu is open under the 'Vendor' category, with 'Add Vendor Category' highlighted. The main content area is titled 'Vendor Category Form' and contains fields for 'Category Name' and 'Category Description'. At the top of the main area, there are 'Save', 'Cancel', and 'Reload' buttons. A red arrow points to the 'Add Vendor Category' link in the sidebar.

Figure 4.51. VirtueMart Administration: Vendor Category Form

Vendor Category Form

Vendor Category Form Fields

Vendor Category Name The name used to identify the vendor category.

Vendor Category Description The description of the vendor category.

Click on the "Save" button.

You will be redirected to the "Vendor Category List" page, showing the "-default-" category, and the new category you just entered.

#	Category Name	Category Description	Vendors	Remove
1	-default-	Default	List	

Figure 4.52. VirtueMart Administration: Vendor Category List

Vendor Category List

You may also add a new vendor category with the Vendor Category Form by clicking on the "New" button in the toolbar.

4.9.1.3. Editing Vendor Categories

To edit an existing vendor category, select "Vendor | List Vendor Categories" in the VirtueMart admin menu. This will return the Vendor Category List screen (shown above). Click on the linked text showing the name of the vendor category you would like to edit to bring up the Vendor Category Form.

When you have finished making changes, click on the "Save" button. You will be redirected back to the "Vendor Category List" screen.

4.9.1.4. Deleting Vendor Categories

If you remove a vendor category all vendors in that category will be reassigned to the "-default-" vendor category that was created upon installation. You can then re-associate the affected vendors if needed, as described below under "Vendors".

To delete a vendor category just go to the Vendor Category List screen. Click on the trash can icon in the "Remove" column next to the name of the vendor category you would like to delete.

#	Category Name	Vendors	Remove
1	-default-	List	
2	New C	List	

Figure 4.53. VirtueMart Administration: Vendor Category Deletion

Vendor Category Deletion

Click 'OK' to confirm deletion of this category.

4.9.2. Vendors

Vendors are the main organizational factor in VirtueMart. Products and product categories, billing options, etc. are all configured per-vendor.

Upon installation, a global, default vendor is created. This special case cannot be deleted, and is managed separately via the "Store | Edit Store" menu option.

If you are running a shopping site for a single vendor (for example, if you are the only vendor that will be offering products in your store) then there is no need to create additional vendors. If, however, you will be running an online mall site that will be host to several vendors, then create one vendor account for each storefront owner.

It may be worth noting here that you should not confuse vendors with manufacturers. A single vendor may have a different manufacturer for each product that they offer. If the person supplying the products on your site will be managing their own shipping, etc., then they are a vendor. If you will be managing these aspects, then the supplier is a manufacturer. (See Manufacturer Administration for more information on that topic).

4.9.2.1. Adding a Vendor

To create a new vendor, select "Vendor | Add Vendor" in the VirtueMart admin menu.

Edit the following fields in the Vendor Information Form:

Full Image	Required
	Displays the currently configured store logo.
Upload Image	Optional
	Browse to the vendor's company logo. This will be uploaded when you click on the "Save" icon.
Currency	The vendor's global / default Currency
Minimum purchase order value	This is the amount which is the minimum Order Value for Checkout.
Minimum Amount for Free Shipping	This is the amount, from which on Shipping is free.
Currency symbol	This is the currency symbol which will be used when displaying prices.
Decimals	Number of decimals.
Decimal symbol	Can be something like . , or empty.
Thousands separator	
Positive format	Display Order / Style for positive numbers.
Negative format	Display Order / Style for negative numbers.

Description	This is the Vendor Store's Description which is shown on the page <code>shop.index</code> .
Terms of Service	This is the complete text for your Terms of Service that is displayed to the customer.
Store Name	Required
	The name of the Vendor Store.
Store Company Name	Required
	The name of the vendor company.
URL	the vendor's Internet Address.
Address 1	Address Line 1
Address 2	Address Line 2
City	The City where the vendor is located.
State/Province/Region	The State / Region where the vendor is located.
Country	The Country where the vendor is located.
Zip/Postal Code	The ZIP of the vendor's location.
Phone	The Vendor's Phone Number
Last, First & Middle Name	The Name of the Vendor's Contact Person.
Title	The title of the Contact Person.
Phone 1 & 2	Vendor's contact's Phone number.
Fax	The Fax number for the Contact.
Email Address	Primary Vendor contact email address

Click the "Save" icon to create your new vendor.

4.9.2.2. Editing Vendors

To edit an existing vendor, select "Vendor | List Vendors" to see a list of all vendors. You may also get to this screen by clicking on the linked text, "list", in the Vendors column on the Vendor Category List screen.

Click on the name of the vendor you would like to edit, or click on the linked text "update" in the Admin column - either will take you to the same Vendor Add Information form. Make your changes in the Vendor "Add Information" form (described above), and click on the "Save" icon. You will be returned to the Vendor List screen.

4.9.2.3. Deleting Vendors

Important

Since vendors represent the top most tier of site management, deletion of vendors should be avoided unless absolutely necessary.

Before deleting an existing vendor, all products, product categories, users, and orders associated to that vendor must be removed through either deletion or re-association to another vendor. VirtueMart will not allow the deletion of a vendor while these child records still exist for that vendor.

Once these child records have been removed, select "Vendor | List Vendors" to see a list of all vendors. Then click on the name of the vendor you would like to delete. In the Vendor Add Information form, click on the "Remove" icon. You will be returned to the Vendor List screen.

Once this vendor has been deleted, it is removed from the system. To recover this vendor, you must re-create the vendor information, and re-associate all appropriate product categories and products.

4.10. Tax Rates

VirtueMart has some tax calculation configuration capabilities. Details on configuring tax calculations on your site can be found above under "Configuration".

There are two Tax modes available in VirtueMart: Based on vendor address and Based on shipping address. Depending on which option you select, you should configure Tax Rates for the locale of each vendor as entered in the "Vendor Information Form" (described above), or for each country or state you plan to have customers from (that you wish to calculate taxes for).

Editing Tax Rates

To edit existing Tax Rate information, select "Tax | List Tax Rates" from the VirtueMart admin menu. Click on either the linked text in the "Tax Country" or the "Tax Rate" column (both will take you to the same record).

Next make changes to the Tax Country, State or Region, or Rate fields as needed, and click on the "Save" icon to save your changes.

Tax Rate changes will be placed into effect for all purchases moving forward.

Deleting Tax Rates

To delete an existing Tax Rate, select "Tax | List Tax Rates" from the VirtueMart admin menu. Click on the linked text in the "Tax Country" or "Tax Rate" column to edit the record. Click on the "Remove" icon. You will be returned to the Tax Rate List.

Alternatively, you may pull up the Tax Rate List by selecting "Tax | List Tax Rates", and click on the trash can icon in the "Remove" column next to the record you would like to delete.

4.10.1. Adding Tax Rates

To add tax rates, select "Tax | Add Tax Rate" from the VirtueMart admin menu. This will bring up the "Add Tax Information" Form.

Add Tax Information Form Fields:

Tax Country	The country this tax rate will be applied to, determined by either the vendor or the purchaser's shipping address.
Tax State or Region	The State or Region this tax rate will be applied to. If there is no region listed for the country you are configuring a tax rate for, select the "Non-USA / Non-Canadian / Not Listed" option. If you don't need a state, but need more than one Tax Rate for a country, just select some "dummy" state for each Tax Rate for that country.

Tax Rate

Example: **0.0825**

The tax rate, as a decimal value. For example, 8.25% would be entered as 0.0825

Click on the "Save" icon to add your new Tax Rate information.

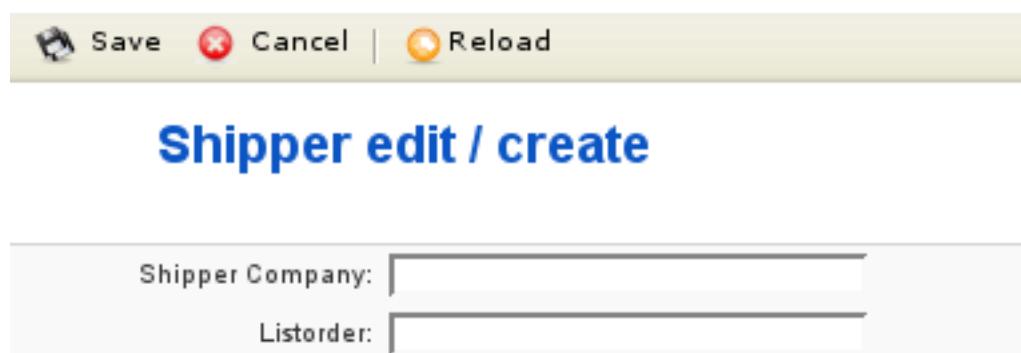
4.11. Shipping Modules

4.11.1. Standard Shipping

It is wise first of all to think about how you will charge for *postage and packing*. The easiest way is to have a fixed shipping price for all of your products, but this is not always practical – especially if your products vary greatly in size and/or weight.

Not only do you need to think about shipping rates, but also shipping methods. Will you offer more than one shipping method – eg. next day delivery as well as standard? DHL as well as Royal Mail?

Even if you decide to only use one company for all of your shipping, you still need to tell VirtueMart about it. To set up a new 'shipper', select 'Create Shipper' from the 'Shipping' menu. This takes you to shipper editor.



Save Cancel | Reload

Shipper edit / create

Shipper Company:

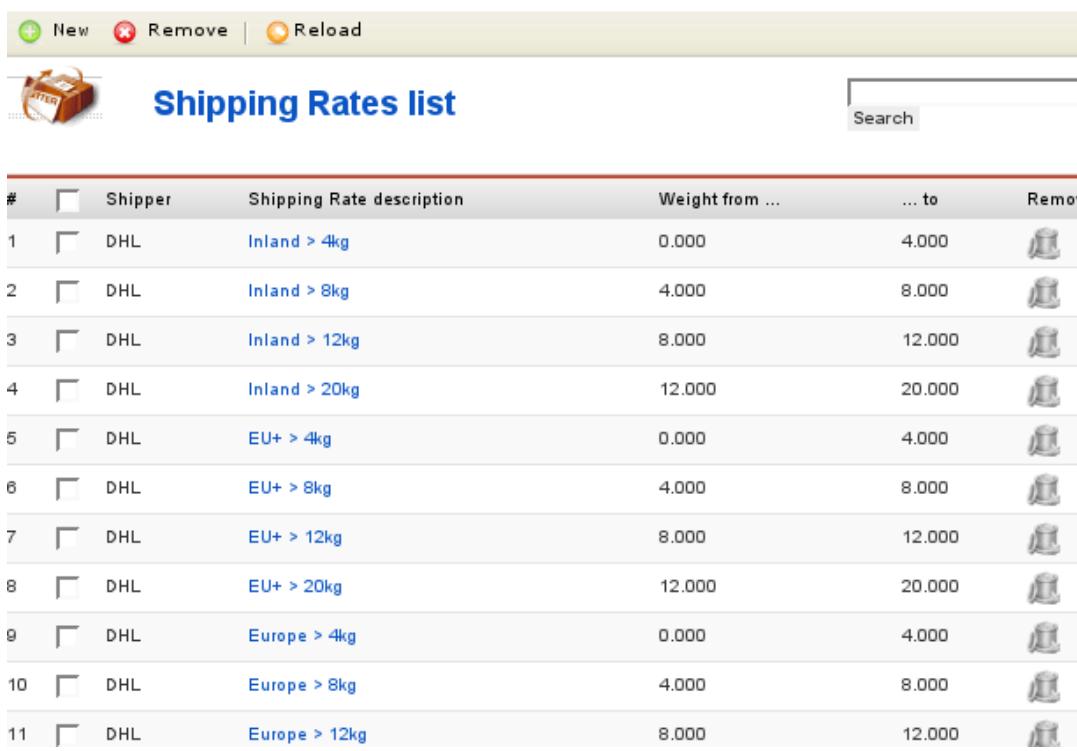
Listorder:

Figure 4.54. VirtueMart Administration: Shipper Form

List order is just a numeric value which is used to sort the shipper names, so enter 1 for the shipper that you want to be listed 1st, 2 for the one you want to be listed 2nd, etc.

When you have added the shipping companies you want to use, you need to configure the *shipping rates*. You can set up different rates for different service levels (eg. next day, two day, first class etc.) or according to the weight of the shipment. You can also select whether to add VAT to the shipping rate or not. All of this takes place in the Shipping Rate Editor – see next figure.

To edit or delete existing shipping rates, select 'Shipping Rates' from the 'Shipping' menu.



#	Shipper	Shipping Rate description	Weight from to	Remove
1	DHL	Inland > 4kg	0.000	4.000	
2	DHL	Inland > 8kg	4.000	8.000	
3	DHL	Inland > 12kg	8.000	12.000	
4	DHL	Inland > 20kg	12.000	20.000	
5	DHL	EU+ > 4kg	0.000	4.000	
6	DHL	EU+ > 8kg	4.000	8.000	
7	DHL	EU+ > 12kg	8.000	12.000	
8	DHL	EU+ > 20kg	12.000	20.000	
9	DHL	Europe > 4kg	0.000	4.000	
10	DHL	Europe > 8kg	4.000	8.000	
11	DHL	Europe > 12kg	8.000	12.000	

Figure 4.55. VirtueMart Administration: Shipping Rate List

By clicking on the name of a shipping rate in this list, you can access the shipping rate form to edit this shipping rate. To add a new shipping rate, click the "New" button in the toolbar.

Save Cancel Reload

Create/Edit a Shipping Rate

Shipping Rate description:

List Order:

Shipper:

Country:

 (selected)

Multiselect: use CTRL-Key and Mouse

ZIP range start:

ZIP range end:

Lowest Weight:

Highest Weight:

Fee:

Your package fee:

Currency:

VAT Id:

Figure 4.56. VirtueMart Administration: Shipping Rate Form

In this form you can specify the details of the shipping rate.

Shipping Rate Description	This is the name of the Shipping Rate, displayed to the customer in the checkout.
List Order	The order of this shipping rate in the list of all other shipping rates (numeric value).
Shipper	Select the carrier for this shipping rate.
Country	The country/countries this shipping rate applies to. Shoppers from other countries won't be able to select this shipping rate.
ZIP Range Start	The lowest ZIP / Postcode this shipping rate is valid for. Leave empty if you're using non-numeric values!
ZIP Range End	The highest ZIP / Postcode this shipping rate is valid for. Leave empty if you're using non-numeric values!
Lowest Weight	The lowest total weight in cart this shipping rate is valid for.
Highest Weight	The highest total weight in cart this shipping rate is valid for.

Fee	The Fee for this shipping rate = the costs.
Package Fee	The package fee = additional costs for packaging.
Currency	The currency, which applies to the costs you have filled in above.
VAT ID	Here you can select a tax rate which is applied to this shipping rate. If you select "none", no tax will be applied.

4.11.2. UPS Shipping Module

4.11.3. USPS Shipping Module

4.11.4. Intershipper Shipping

4.11.5. Zone Shipping

4.12. Payment Methods

The area of *payment processing* can get a bit complicated, and it might be best to leave this to your web designer to sort out if possible. If you are able to use one of the payment processing companies that are already supported by VirtueMart, it will make life a lot easier (you will need to sign-up with a payment processor yourself – the program won't do that for you!). You can see the options available by clicking on the 'List Payment Methods' icon on the store summary, or by selecting 'List Payment Methods' from the 'Store' menu.

4.12.1. Payment Method Management

#	Name	Code	Discount	Shopper Group	Payment method type	Active	Remove
1	2Checkout	2CO	\$0.00	-default-	HTML-Form based (e.g. PayPal)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2	Credit Card	AN	\$0.00	-default-	Use Payment Processor	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3	Credit Card	CC	\$0.00	-default-	Credit Card	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4	Credit Card (eProcessingNetwork)	EPN	\$0.00	-default-	Use Payment Processor	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5	Credit Card (PayMeNow)	PN	\$0.00	-default-	Use Payment Processor	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6	Dankort / PBS	PBS	\$0.00	-default-	HTML-Form based (e.g. PayPal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7	eCheck.net	ECK	\$0.00	-default-	Bank debit	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8	eWay	EW	\$0.00	-default-	Use Payment Processor	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9	iKobo	IK	\$0.00	-default-	HTML-Form based (e.g. PayPal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10	iTransact	ITR	\$0.00	-default-	HTML-Form based (e.g. PayPal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Figure 4.57. VirtueMart Administration: Payment Method List

It is possible to create a new payment method (there is a 'New' toolbar button), but you may have to hack the VirtueMart code in order to make use of it (not for the faint-hearted!).

The configuration options for each payment method are different – depending on what is required by that payment service provider. Usually your payment service provider will give you some kind of code, key, or user name which needs to be entered in the *Payment Method Editor*.

The Payment Method Editor consists of 2 tabs – the first of which you will probably not need to touch. The next Figure shows the 2nd tab ('Configuration'), which varies depending on the payment service provider, and the example shown here is for WorldPay.

4.12.2. Add and Edit Payment Methods

Save | Cancel | Reload

Payment Method Form

Configuration

Active ?:

Payment Method Name:

Code:

Payment class name:

Payment method type: Credit Card
 Use Payment Processor
 Bank debit
 Address only / Cash on Delivery
 HTML-Form based (e.g. PayPal)

Shopper Group:

Discount:

Discount Type: Percentage
 Total

Maximum discount amount:

Minimum discount amount:

List Order:

Figure 4.58. VirtueMart Administration: Payment Method Editor

Some payment processors will allow you to specify a script to be run on successful completion of a payment. Such a script could be used to *automatically update the order status* in VirtueMart so that you don't have to manually tie up all of your online receipts with your product orders.

Another advantage of this process is that when you're selling downloadable files, you don't have to set the Order Status that enables the Download (this sends out the Download-ID email) manually. This is done automatically by the script.

See the Section "Pre-Configured Payment Methods" for more details on specific payment gateways.

Other payment service providers may use different methods of automatically notifying you when a payment is received. Again, it is probably easiest to get your web designer to sort out the requirements for this, but if you need to do it yourself, check with your payment service provider as to what their requirements are. Often, automatic notification is referred to as '*IPN*' or '*Instant Payment Notification*'.

4.12.3. Pre-Configured Payment Methods

VirtueMart already comes with several Payment Modules that allow accepting payments from customers after a short time for setting them up with your Account Details.

4.12.3.1. PayPal

www.paypal.com [http://www.paypal.com]

PayPal integration is made using a Webform that transfers the customer to the PayPal site.

The screenshot shows the 'Payment Method Form' configuration screen for the PayPal payment module. The configuration tab is selected. The URL is /opt/lampp/htdocs/joomla/administrator/components/com_virtuemart/classes/payment/ps_paypal.cfg.php :: **Writable**. The configuration includes:

- Test mode? (Yes)
- PayPal receiver email: you@yourbusiness.com
- Order Status or successful transactions: Confirmed
- Order Status or Pending payments: Pending
- Accept only verified buyers? (No)
- Order Status or failed transactions: Cancelled
- Payment Extra Info (with sample PHP code):

```

Payment Extra Info: ⓘ
:?:php
$url = "https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr";
$tax_total = $db->f("order_tax") + $db->f("order_shipping_tax");
$discount_total = $db->f("coupon_discount") + $db->f("order_discount");

```

Figure 4.59. VirtueMart Administration: Paypal Configuration Screen

This payment method allows automatic Order Status Updates. There's a file in /administrator/components/com_virtuemart/ which is called `notify.php`. You will need to enter the appropriate URL (web address) for the script file in PayPal's control panel. When a customer finishes the Payment, the PayPal server connects to this script on your server. When the transaction AND the payment have been successful, the order status is automatically updated to the status you have set in the PayPal configuration form.

4.12.3.2. Worldpay

www.worldpay.com

Worldpay integration is made using a Webform that transfers the customer to the Worldpay site.

Allows automatic Order Status Updates. There's a file in /administrator/components/com_virtuemart/ which is called `worldpay_notify.php`. You will need to enter the appropriate URL (web address) for the script file in WorldPay's control panel. When a customer

finishes the Payment, Worldpay connects to this script on your server and when the transaction AND the payment have been successful, updates the order status.

4.12.3.3. authorize.net

www.authorize.net

This payment module uses the authorize.net **AIM** method, which means that the customers stay on your site and enter all Credit Card details. When the order is being completed, the Payment Module connects with authorize.net and tries to initiate the Money Transfer using the Payment Details of the buyer and your account details that you have set up in the configuration panel for authorize.net.

4.12.3.4. 2Checkout

<http://www.2checkout.com>

This payment module acts very similar to the PayPal Payment Module: It transfers the customer to www.2Checkout.com where all payment details can be entered. After that the customer is directed back to your site. But before you must make the following steps:

1. Fill in your details for 2Checkout in your Shop, "Store" # "Payment List" # "2Checkout".
For the field **Secret word** just choose a secret word (without spaces!! max. 16 characters), fill it in and keep it in mind.
2. Login to your 2Checkout account at www.2checkout.com.
3. Go to the section called "Look and Feel".
4. Fill in "`https://YOUR_JOOMLA_URL/2checkout_notify.php`" into the fields **Approved URL** and **Pending URL**
5. Fill in the secret word from Step 1 into the Field **Secret Word**.
6. Move the file `YOUR_JOOMLA_PATH/administrator/components/com_virtuemart/2checkout_notify.php` to `YOUR_JOOMLA_PATH/2checkout_notify.php`
(means into the Mambo root)

When those steps have been completed, you can use 2Checkout with automatic Order Status updates on your site.

4.12.3.5. eWay

www.eway.com.au

This payment module implements the eWAY XML Payment Solution.

The customers stay on your site and enter all Credit Card details. When the order is being completed, the Payment Module connects with the eWay gateway and tries to initiate the Money Transfer using the Payment Details of the buyer.

4.12.3.6. Paymate

...

4.12.3.7. eProcessingNetwork.com

www.eProcessingNetwork.com

See section "authorize.net".

4.12.3.8. NoChex

...

4.12.3.9. PayMeNow

...

4.13. Coupon Administration

You can access the list of coupons from the menu: "Coupons" # "Coupon List".

#	Code	Percent or Total	Coupon Type	Value	Remove
1	test2	Percent	Permanent Coupon	15.00	
2	test3	Total	Permanent Coupon	4.00	
3	test4	Total	Permanent Coupon	1000.00	
4	test1	Percent	Permanent Coupon	500.00	

Figure 4.60. VirtueMart Administration: Coupon List

Here is where you can add, modify or remove existing coupons.

To add a new coupon, click the "new" button in the toolbar. The coupon form shows up.

New Coupon

Coupon Code:

Percent or Total: Percent Total

Coupon Type:

Value:

Figure 4.61. VirtueMart Administration: Coupon Form

Now you need to fill in the necessary value for the new coupon:

Coupon Code	This is the "code" a customer needs to fill in to redeem this coupon. This can be a simple word or a secret string with numbers and characters.
Percent or Total	Here you can choose whether the coupon value is a percentage of the cart total or a fixed total value.
Coupon Type	There are two types of coupons: Gift Coupons and Permanent Coupons. Gift Coupons are removed from the database once they have been used to place an order. Permanent Coupons can be used for campaigns, because they can be used again and again until you remove them from the coupon list.
Value	This is the numeric discount value of this coupon.

Don't forget to save your changes and you're done!

4.14. Reports

VirtueMart comes with a basic and self-explaining Report Module. It allows you to view the product sales of a specific time range.

Chapter 5. About VirtueMart

5.1. Known Problems

See Bug Tracker [https://dev.virtuemart.net/cb/proj/tracker/browseTracker.do?tracker_id=1]

5.2. To-Do List

5.2.1. Wishlist / Not implemented Features

- Meta Description/Keywords for products
- Quick-Add: Discount on *all* Products
- allow "send as gift" with individual text on order
- Shipping based on Cart Total

5.2.2. General

- improve performance
- improve Security
- Clean up code
- XHTML compliance
- Clean up checkout

5.3. The Project

VirtueMart is an Open Source E-Commerce solution for Joomla! and Mambo.

VirtueMart is released under the GNU Public License. It is free to download and use.

There's a small group of developers who help in making this Shopping Cart Script more professional and easily usable. The author of this documentation is the Lead Developer...and having not much time besides Wife, Work & Studies.

History: VirtueMart is the successor of mambo-phpShop. mambo-phpShop was the first port of phpShop to Mambo. phpShop was developed by Edikon Corp. [<http://www.edikon.com>] and the phpShop community - <http://www.phpshop.org>.

5.4. The Community

Since VirtueMart is free and Open Source Software, everyone using it can (and should!) contribute to this project.

You can send your code snippets, hints and anything else helpful to the Homepage of the project: <http://virtuemart.net>.

There's also an active Forum, where discussion and bug reporting can take place: Forum [<http://forum.virtuemart.net/index.php>].

5.5. The Documentation

This documentation was written using XMLMind XML Editor [<http://www.xmlmind.com/xmleditor>] using the DocBook [<http://www.docbook.org>] XML Format.

DocBook defines a set of markup elements useful for marking up text so that the text can then be transformed into several different formats. It's possible to create documents in different formats: PDF, HTML, HTML Help (.chm Files for Windows Help), XML, RTF, TeX, WordML (Word 2003) and others. The author of this document uses eDE [<http://docbook.e-novative.de/>] for generating the End-User documents. The idea is to write just once and reach the largest possible number of people with the information. Digital information not stored properly tends to get lost. Due to the fact that not containing uncommon characters (such as binary formats) it's possible to index and search directly on the documents written on SGML and consequently on DocBook. The SGML systems use markups to make their description. DocBook holds over 300 markup elements each one with several attributes which can assume several values, these can be fixed or defined by the document / style that the author has used.